

Portfolio

There is £44,000 to be won in the *Times Portfolio* competition today. As neither last weekend's weekly prize nor yesterday's daily prize were won, they are doubled to £40,000 and £4,000 respectively. *Portfolio* list, page 18; week's price changes, back page Information Service.

Crisis talks on threat to AUEW

Efforts were under way in Blackpool to prevent the threat of suspension, which is hanging over the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, being pressed during the TUC Congress next week. The union has angered fellow members by accepting government money for postal ballots. **Page 2**

Police round-up in Pakistan

Pakistan police are hunting activist members of the banned Pakistan People's Party after the arrest of its leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, and have detained 18 so far. **Leading article, page 7**

Vaccine verdict

Parents of a boy they claim was left mentally handicapped after being given a whooping cough vaccine have lost a court attempt to get £145,000. **Page 3**

US deficit falls

The US merchandise trade deficit in July was \$10.51 billion (£7.5 billion) compared with \$13.43 billion in June, according to Commerce Department figures. **Page 17**

Aquino ruling

A Philippine Supreme Court decision on admissible evidence cleared the way for the acquittal of two generals and seven other soldiers in the Aquino murder trial. **Page 4**

Rift healed

White-collar members of the National Union of Mineworkers have decided not to join the breakaway union, and claim Mr Arthur Scargill, the president, has pledged not to call a strike without a ballot. **Page 2**

Solidarity plea

On the fifth anniversary of Solidarity's birth, its leader, Mr Lech Walesa, urged the Polish Government to free political prisoners and end repression. **Page 4**

Irish talks fear

Crucial issues are still unresolved in the Anglo-Irish talks on Ulster as the negotiations enter their final weeks, with ministers doubtful of the chances of success. **Page 2**

Nissan booms

Nissan UK, sole importer of Nissan and Datsun cars, had a profit before tax of £49.7 million in the year to July 1984. **Page 17**

Chess judges

André Malcher of Bulgaria and Vladislav Mikenas of the Soviet Union were named as arbiters for the world chess title rematch between Anatoly Karpov and Garry Kasparov. **Harry Golombek, page 12**

Bell chief stays

Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman of Arthur Bell & Sons, the whisky group taken over by Guinness, has been persuaded not to resign. **Page 17**

Money to study

Cash problems have been eased for students this year by a ministerial ruling on social security payments. Two of today's seven Family Money pages offer guidance to students traditionally short of funds. **Pages 29-36**

Norman in lead

A second round of 68, gave Greg Norman, the Australian golfer, a one-shot lead in the Panasonic European Open at Sunningdale. **Page 28**

Sporting union

Three leading athletes have decided that their sport should be protected by a trade union. **Page 27**

Leader page 7
Letters: On public spending, from Mr B. Kilroy; air safety, from Mr J. Hewitt; and Prof D. A. Smith.
Leading article: Benazir Bhutto; "green" politics; Stakhanov anniversary.
Obituary, page 8
Maxwell Shaw, Dr L. Harrison.

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Maxwell to pull Mirror titles out of Fleet Street

By Staff Reporters

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of Mirror Group Newspapers, announced last night that none of the group's titles would be printed again at the Holborn Circus headquarters after talks broke down with the National Graphical Association.

Mr Maxwell also announced that he was putting the *Sporting Life* racing paper up for sale. He said it was "no longer possible" to print the *Mirror*, the *Sunday Mirror*, the *Sunday People* or the *Sporting Life* at the central London base.

He said that he had wanted to print the *Sporting Life* elsewhere, which led to the dispute which has halted printing of the *Mirror* for the past eight issues, but the unions would not agree to the transfer or allow an emergency issue to be printed elsewhere.

Later agreement was reached with the NGA. General Secretary is principle on that matter but implementation of the agreement proved unacceptable to NGA officers at the Holborn Circus chapel (office branch), Mr Maxwell said in his statement.

"This anarchy can have only one result. Its first consequence is that the MGN will never publish *Sporting Life* again. It is now for sale."

Mr Maxwell added: "When I became publisher of MGN, a little over 13 months ago, I believed I could change a foundering enterprise into a flourishing one. Regrettably, I must admit failure so far."

Mr Maxwell hoped it would soon be possible to publish again the major titles, *The Mirror*, the *Sunday Mirror* and the *Sunday People*. "But it must be away from Holborn Circus," he said.

publishing of newspapers should be separated from their printing. To that end I now appointed the British Newspaper Printing Corporation to print these titles. They have purchased the Thomson Withy Grove plant and are ready to print in London and at Manchester. Publication can begin as soon as agreement is reached with the unions concerned in Manchester and or London."

Mr Harry Conroy, general secretary of the National Union of Journalists, said last night that he was shocked by Mr Maxwell's announcement. There had been earlier indications that both sides were "coming close to agreement."

Mr Maxwell's rivals have been profiting handsomely by his misfortune during the absence of *The Mirror*, *Sunday Mirror* and *Sunday People*. Mr Rupert Murdoch's *News of the World*, last weekend printed an extra one million copies and achieved a circulation of more than six million, according to unofficial figures circulating in the industry.

Sales of *The Sun*, also owned by Mr Murdoch and chief rival to *The Mirror*, have increased by 10 per cent to about 4.4 million copies during the dispute. Its ability to profit more was limited by lack of an agreement with its printing workers to produce more copies. Sales of the *Daily Star*, *Daily Express* and *Sunday Express* have increased much more modestly, by between 25,000 and 100,000.

Local authority employees are to offer a new pay package to teachers within the next two weeks, aimed at settling the dispute which enters its third school term on Monday.

Although Mrs Nicole Harrison, chairman of the employers' side, refused to give details of the new offer yesterday, she was "optimistic" that it would provide a real hope of settlement, and an end to the threat of widening strikes and disruptive sanctions.

Her suggestion, however, that the new proposals would involve taking up government offers of a conditional £1.250 million package spread over four years, left teachers' union leaders cautious and sceptical. She carefully avoided referring to the new package as an "improved" cash offer.

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Continued on back page, col 5.



Teleprompter, the Yorkshire-trained winner of the Arlington Million in Chicago, last Sunday, received the sort of welcome normally reserved for Grand National winners when he returned to Richmond yesterday. The five-year-old gelding, who was ridden by Tony Ives, earned \$600,000 in prize money for his owner, Lord Derby, and a champagne kiss on his homecoming from Bill Watts, his trainer.

Teachers get new offer as threat of disruption grows

By Colin Hughes

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Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the NUT and chairman of the panel of six teachers' union, said he hoped the management intended to answer the unions' 1985 claim, meaning at least 7.5 per cent, and commit itself to restoring salaries to levels comparable with 1974.

"If the employers seriously intend to negotiate with us on the 1985 claim, and their new proposals relate to that, then I hope we will be able to make progress. If they come to such a

She estimates that there are at least 33,000 phobias in Britain, "and those are just the ones who come forward."

Some doctors think that more than 5 per cent of the population may suffer from some serious phobia or related condition. The ratio of women phobics to men is thought to be about three to one, but Mrs Gothard is convinced that women are simply more willing to admit their weakness.

The majority of men tend to think nerves are the prerogative of women and if you admit to them it makes you less manly," she said yesterday.

She agrees with the newly fashionable definition of agoraphobia not as fear of open spaces but as "fear of fear". The sufferer learns to associate feelings of panic with certain

situations, which are then avoided.

Such panic attacks can be experienced almost anywhere, indoors as well as out, and even at home. Unlike a specific phobia - fear of one thing like spiders or lifts - agoraphobia almost invariably makes "normal" life difficult if not impossible.

Mrs Gothard has encountered some amusing phobias. One man was afraid of the colour green (she advised him to consider filtered or tinted spectacles), and a recent caller from the United States could not bear to drive over a toll bridge.

McAlpine pulls out of South Africa:

more die in Cape violence

Coloured areas focus for riots

From Gerald Shaw

Cape Town
Armoured police patrols clashed with groups of rioters in sporadic incidents in the troubled Cape Flats area near Cape Town yesterday. The official death toll rose to 20 in three days, with hundreds injured, including 19 policemen.

The black townships of Guguletu and Nyanga, where most deaths and injuries were first recorded, are now relatively calm. The focal point of violence has switched to the Coloured (mixed race) residential areas of Bellville South, Manenberg, Elsies River and Mitchell's Plain, where shops and liquor stores have been looted and buildings and houses set alight.

Unofficial tallies said 30 had died. The police barred journalists from the riot areas again yesterday allowing residents only past the road blocks.

In Mitchell's Plain, where a youth of 16 and two children aged 12 and 13 were shot dead by police on Thursday night, there were further reports of mobs overturning vehicles and setting them alight.

Residents of Mitchell's Plain and Bellville South complained that police had indiscriminately fired tear gas, rubber bullets and birdshot in their areas, without provocation.

A boycott of Coloured and African high schools continued, and hundreds of high school children and college students gathered in an illegal political rally at Lansdowne on the Cape Flats. Police negotiated a dispersal with the leaders.

Bulletins indicated that violence has been spreading to rural areas of the Southern Cape Province. In Beaufort West centre of a sheepfarming district, the high school was burnt down on Thursday night.

Pics on ANC, page 5

UK firm sells mining shares

By Clare Dobie

Sir Alfred McAlpine & Son, the construction company, said yesterday it was withdrawing from South Africa, while BTR, the London-based conglomerate, said plans to merge the BTR and Dunlop subsidiaries in South Africa had been postponed.

Alfred McAlpine is selling its 68 per cent shareholding in an opencast coal-mine, McAlpine SA, to Trans-Natal, the mining arm of General Mining Union Corporation, for £19.5 million.

As part of the deal the company has agreed not to mine in southern Africa for the next five years. It plans to invest the proceeds in America. BTR's merger plans have been frustrated by suspension of trading on the South African Stock Exchange.

Meanwhile, South Africa's Central Bank Governor, Dr Gerhard Kock, is holding talks in Washington amid signs that US bankers are showing greatest unease over South Africa's foreign debt.

Although the debt is only \$20 billion, most of it is on 90- to 180-day terms to finance trade, as opposed to Latin American debt that is bigger but more long term.

JOHANNESBURG: Three European foreign ministers arrived in South Africa yesterday for a crowded three-day visit which was nearly scuttled earlier this week when the South African Government said that they would not be allowed to see Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned African National Congress leader (Ray Kennedy writes).

The EEC mission, led by Mr Jacques Poos, Foreign Minister of Luxembourg, will draw up findings which will have a vital bearing at a meeting in Brussels on September 10 at which a common anti-apartheid strategy is to be discussed.

Kenneth Fleet, page 17
Tempus, page 19

Crash jet may have had earlier engine trouble

The British Airways Boeing 737, which burst into flames at Manchester airport killing 55 passengers, may have been forced to make an emergency landing four weeks earlier after overheating trouble in the same engine which caused the disaster.

A passenger on a holiday flight from Gatwick to Corfu on July 25 told *The Times* that the pilot had explained after landing that the port engine had been shut down.

The passenger, who did not wish to be named, said that

during the flight he and his wife heard a steward tell a stewardess "This plane is sick."

He said: "When we landed the plane slewed sideways, but the pilot kept it under control. When we stopped the pilot said there had been a routine engine overhauling problem and it had had to be shut down."

British Airways last night refused to make any comment on the incident, or to confirm or deny whether the same aircraft had been involved.

Policewomen praised, page 3

England's blushes are spared

England reduced Australia to 145 for six to strengthen further their grip on the sixth and final Test match at the Oval. A pre-lunch batting collapse saw England lose their last seven wickets and tumble from 376 for three overnight to 464 all out.

Then the bowlers got to work. With Greg Ritchie their last recognized batsman at the crease, the Australians require 121 to avoid the follow-on. This spared England's blushes after their batsmen squandered the fine work of the previous day.

John Paul Getty II, one of the world's richest men, has given £1.5 million towards the MCC's £4.3 million new Mound Stand project at Lord's. Mr Getty, an avid follower of cricket, was recently elected a member of MCC after a long period on the candidates' list.

John Woodcock, page 27.

Experts gather to help take the stress out of phobias

By Tony Samstag

The good news for Mrs Vanna Gothard yesterday was that the five-day conference she had organized on phobias and other states of anxiety and stress had opened as scheduled and was expected to be a well-attended and lively affair.

The bad news was that she could not be there herself: she was afraid to travel.

About 70 psychiatrists, psychologists and therapists, more than half of them American, are attending the symposium at Imperial College, London, to discuss such topics as "experiential exercises in coping skills" and "institutional stress."

At 57, she has learned to laugh about a problem she has lived with for almost 20 years. Since the death of her



Mrs Gothard, who suffers from agoraphobia.

husband last August - a coincidence of dates which she thinks may have contributed to her decision to stay at home yesterday, she has even started to learn to drive.

tation techniques today, and another speaker will be Mrs Jean Esterbrook, who offers therapy by mail from her home near New York to phobics whose illness keeps them homebound.

Mrs Gothard, who suffers from agoraphobia, is the founder of the Public Trust, a 15-year-old charity that encourages and helps to organize self-help groups.

She has made great strides in overcoming her condition, but a fear of travelling by public transport persists and it is not always possible to arrange alternatives.

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ONE BIRTHDAY LATER EMMA'S MUM HAS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS



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MS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

White-collar section of miners' union decides not to join breakaway

By Craig Seton

The 150,000-strong Colliery Officials' Staffs Association decided yesterday against joining the breakaway from the National Union of Mineworkers, but its leaders said they had wrung out of Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's president, a vital acknowledgement that miners could not again be called out on strike without a ballot.

The general council of Cosa, the union's white collar section, took its decision in Derby yesterday after studying a letter from the NUM's solicitors giving assurances of its status as an autonomous constituent of the national union and a legal opinion on the rights of areas in any future planned industrial action.

The Cosa decision will be a bitter blow to the breakaway federation of miners planned by Nottinghamshire and south Derbyshire, and according to Cosa's leadership, Mr Scargill is having to make considerable concessions towards acknowledging the autonomy of NUM areas to prevent the damaging split within the union becoming even wider.

Mr Trevor Bell, Cosa's moderate general secretary, said: "Cosa has done the NUM a service by a service by the membership means we cannot be dragged into a dispute again without our members being consulted according to our rules."

The letter from Seifert Sedley Williams, the NUM's London solicitors, has been accepted by Mr Scargill both orally and in writing, according to Mr Bell. It refers to rule 26(c) of the NEC and says that the NUM has agreed to a new national controversial new national

Pitmen heading for TUC clash on costs

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders are heading for a clash with the TUC General Council unless they withdraw a motion seeking reimbursement by a future Labour government of the costs of receiving and sequestration incurred during the year-long coal strike.

There were strong indications last night that the general council will vote to oppose the motion if it is pressed for debate by National Union of Mineworkers' leaders when the strike is discussed by the congress next week. The union is encountering opposition from within the council in spite of accepting modifications proposed by the National Communications Union.

The NCU is proposing that whereas the NUM motion, which has been submitted in identical form to the Labour Party conference next month, seeks a firm commitment from a Labour government to reimburse, that the TUC should merely "campaign" for such compensation.

A move to commit the general council to oppose the proposal yesterday was deferred to allow the details of a draft composite motion agreed by Mr Arthur Scargill, the

miners' president, and NCU representatives to be discussed by the NCU's delegation tomorrow.

Miners' union leaders who reached a tentative agreement on the issue with Mr Stan Orme, Labour spokesman on energy, and Mr Larry Whitty, general secretary of the Labour Party, at a meeting earlier this month, remain hopeful that the general council will support the motion with the NCU amendment.

But Mr Bill Gill, a representative from the National and Local Government Officers' Association, who raised the issue at yesterday's general council meeting, made it clear that even with the amendment he would be seeking the council's opposition. Mr Norman Willis, the TUC's general secretary, is understood to take the same line.

The general council has decided to support a motion from the two main rail unions which pays tribute "to the miners and their families who faced starvation and privation in their struggle against the National Coal Board's policy of pit closures".

Crisis talks over suspension

By Our Labour Editor

Fresh efforts were underway in Blackpool last night to prevent the threat of suspension hanging over the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) being pressed during the next week's TUC Congress.

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, is expected to meet members of the union's executive today to discuss the crisis over the union's acceptance of government money for postal ballots.

At the same time unions with motions raising the issue of the boycott on government cash were coming under concerted pressure from some TUC leaders to withdraw them, so allowing efforts to defuse the crisis to continue unimpeded away from the floor of the congress.

Mr Willis will convey in person to the AUEW's leaders

Thursday's general council decision formally to direct the union not to accept any further government funds after the £1.2 million it received earlier this year.

On the eve of the meeting Mr Terry Duffy, the union's president, who, because of illness, will not be travelling to today's meeting in Blackpool, firmly backed the union's policy of accepting funds. The union is committed to holding a ballot in October of its one million members to decide whether they want further state cash. The last ballot on the issue went 12-1 in favour.

Mr Duffy said: "The TUC are not the custodians of the policy of any individual union. Ballots are here to stay because the members want them."

With the outcome of today's

meeting finally balanced Mr John Baldwin, the construction workers' representative on the union's executive, endorsed Mr Duffy's remarks as he arrived in Blackpool last night. "I think our membership of the TUC is very important," he said, "but even more important is that we maintain our honesty and integrity with our own members."

The harder line supporters of the view that the union should offer no further concessions to the TUC than it has already believed that some of their colleagues may now be considering a possible compromise. So far the TUC has already rejected as a solution a proposal from Mr Gavin Laird, the union's general secretary, that the TUC itself should draw up the ballot form which would be put to members in October.

Moderate leads boilermakers' leadership vote

By Barrie Clement Labour Reporter

Mr John Edmonds seems likely to be declared the leader of the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union today.

Mr Edmonds, the union's national officer for public services, was thought last night to have secured more than the 500,000 votes deemed necessary to ensure his election. The official result will be announced later today on the eve of the TUC Congress at Blackpool.

Mr Edmonds, a graduate, aged 41, would take over from Mr David Bassett, an elder statesman in the labour movement, who will cease to be general secretary on December 31.

Mr Edmonds, who has a broadly "centrist" political outlook, would also take Mr Bassett's seat on the general council of the TUC.

The two other candidates are Mr David Warburton, the union's national chemicals officer, who is likely to come second, and Mr Tom Burlison, northern regional secretary.

The election was conducted under the branch block vote system where those who attend meetings cast the votes for the whole membership, however many turn up.

The structure of the union, the third largest, is under review and the voting methods are likely to change.

Parrish date

A disciplinary tribunal is due to hear allegations against Mr Alf Parrish, Derbyshire's suspended chief constable, on March 10 next year. He is said to have spent £28,000 without authorisation.

Drivers join support for dismissed railmen

By Barrie Clement Labour Reporter

The dispute over one-man trains continued yesterday as drivers' leaders joined the National Union of Railwaymen in demanding the reinstatement of 245 dismissed guards.

Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of the drivers' union, ASLEF, said that British Rail's refusal to "take back the dismissed NUR men without guarantees on productivity was proof that management was using 'intimidation' to introduce driver-only operation."

Mr Buckton said his members would continue to refuse to take out trains without guards or undergo training for single-manning. Already 400 had been sent home.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, NUR leader, reaffirmed that "there will be no agreement until all our people are reinstated."

A majority of the 11,500 guards throughout the network voted against taking action on the issue of one-man trains and the NUR has called a special conference for September 12 at

TUC Congress House to reconsider its opposition.

Mr John Palente, British Rail's managing director of personnel, has demanded an assurance from the special conference that the union will negotiate on all management productivity proposals before the dismissed men will be reinstated.

An offer of separate talks in Glasgow where 140 guards have been dismissed and where suburban services were still disrupted yesterday, brought an angry response from the NUR locally and nationally.

British Rail said that it was offering an accelerated procedure to get talks going ahead of the special conference, but the union said it was no different from the national offer.

Drivers on the Bedford to St Pancras line, the only route now operating one-man trains, earn an extra £7.32 a shift on average earnings of about £200, according to British Rail.



Gunter Rochelt, of Munich, adjusting the 60 metre wing span of his 20 kilogram Muscalfair II, thought to be the world's lightest piloted aircraft. It will be demonstrated at this weekend's Festival of Human Power at Milton Keynes in Buckinghamshire.

Lawyers to come under race law

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government proposes to amend the Race Relations Act so that it covers alleged racial discrimination in the legal profession.

Mr Rudy Narayan, a black barrister, alerted the profession to possible racial discrimination after the ruling of an industrial tribunal in May.

He pointed out that the tribunal upheld the view that the refusal or deliberate omission to offer a brief to counsel was not a refusal or deliberate omission to offer employment.

Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, has acknowledged that there is a loophole in the law. Discrimination can occur in the legal profession because of the peculiar relationship

between barristers and solicitors, which the Act does not cover.

Employment is defined as being under a contract of service, or of apprenticeship, or a contract personally to execute any work or labour.

But Mr John Whitmore, legal director of the Commission for Racial Equality, explained that barristers have been regarded as not having a contract with the solicitors which employ them. This has prevented barristers being used in connection with their court work, Mr Whitmore said.

"For similar reasons it has been held by an industrial tribunal that, as there is no contract, it is not employment

within the meaning of the Act" he added.

The relationship between a client and a solicitor is more straightforward. The client can claim that the solicitor is supposed to be providing a service, so he can be covered under other provisions of the Race Relations Act.

The problem over the relationship between barristers and solicitors arises in an acute form when a prisoner writes to a barrister to complain that he wanted to use him, but could not do so because the solicitor would not agree.

The barrister is left in a difficult position, because he is inhibited from going to see the prisoner directly.

Officers in drift from services

Commissioned officers are leaving the Army and Royal Air Force in accelerating numbers, according to quarterly figures published by the Ministry of Defence yesterday.

Nearly 950 male and female officers resigned or retired between April and June. That is 124 more than during the previous quarter, and 94 more than during the corresponding quarter the year before.

Only in the Royal Navy did the numbers leaving show no significant increase, but there the number of servicemen below officer rank leaving rose for the fourth consecutive quarter.

The Ministry's only comment yesterday was that the figures "are only for the first quarter of this financial year and are too early to indicate a real trend. We are keeping the situation under review."

It is understood, however, that skilled officers are being increasingly attracted by the salaries and working conditions of private industry.

Though armed forces pay rose by 7.9 per cent in April, bringing the average pay of a major to £23,509, of a lieutenant colonel to £23,280, and a colonel to £25,995, their skills can now earn more elsewhere.

The private sector offers them the opportunity to spend time with their families, whereas in the services changed conditions mean that they have to spend an increasing amount of time away from home.

The premature loss of such officers has severe implications for the Ministry of Defence. It takes three years, for example, to train a fast jet pilot and costs £3.1 million.

There was no corresponding jump in recruitment figures during the last quarter. A total of 453 officers of both sexes joined the services, 403 fewer than in the previous quarter.

The loss was due largely to seasonal factors, but the number is also down on the same quarter last year.

Recruitment of other ranks, by contrast, shows no sign of slipping. During the last quarter 7,748 men and women signed up, 600 more than during the previous quarter.

The overall number leaving was 7,621, slightly more than the same quarter last year but 500 down on the previous quarter.

Job training strategy call by Tories

By Our Political Staff

The Government's plans to reduce the number of university places threatened the future of smaller colleges and failed to tackle the difficulties of youth unemployment and a shortage of scientific skills, a group of Conservative back bench MPs has claimed.

It has called for a new approach to training and further education with an increase in public spending. Failure to follow its recommendations could lead to the closure of one small university every two years, Conservative Action to Revive Employment (Care) said in its report published yesterday.

Sir Philip Goodhart, a former minister and author of the report, said that the latest unemployment figures "underlined the importance of increased training at a time when the trend for unemployment is upward."

He added that it was ridiculous for industrial regeneration to be held back by lack of skills.

To combat those two problems he urged the Government to think again about its annual

Key issues still divide Dublin and London

From Tim Jones Belfast

With only weeks to go before negotiations must end, there has been no settlement of crucial issues that have to be resolved if the Anglo-Irish talks are to have any hope of success.

Dr Garret FitzGerald, the Irish Prime Minister, is adamant that the autumn must be "make or break time", and still maintains that there is only half a chance of agreement.

His assessment of the chances of success and of the timetable is shared by Mr Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who says that "in a matter of weeks" the result of the most intensive dialogue ever engaged in between the two countries should be known.

What has emerged is that Dublin will not have, nor does it expect, a decision-making role in the affairs of Ulster after the talks.

The talks began last year, after Mrs Margaret Thatcher's rejection of the main proposals of the All-Ireland Forum report and are designed to find a political formula that will bring peace and political stability to Ulster.

Both sides are anxious for success to create a climate under which northern nationalists can identify with their governing security and legal and judicial systems.

Dublin's belief that unless that is achieved, the frustrated minority will turn increasingly to Sinn Féin with the implicit support for the "armed struggle" of the IRA that would imply.

No agreement has yet been reached on the key question of security and the judiciary. Northern Ireland, and the discussions are thought to be difficult.

Dr FitzGerald has been scathing in the past about the role and performance of the Ulster Defence Regiment, regarded by Roman Catholics as a sectarian force. His government will insist on much better training, rigorous screening to weed out bigots and ban on the regiment being used as an offensive force in Roman Catholic areas.

Dublin would also want to see reform of the Royal Ulster Constabulary to make it more acceptable to the nationalists, although this is perceived as much harder to achieve.

Dublin believes, in spite of hints of a revolt by British judges, that the two judicial systems could be linked for cases of terrorism to enable a judge from the Irish Republic to sit with two northern judges in Ulster, and to allow a northern judge to join two judges from the republic in the south.

All or any of those options would encounter unionist and loyalist wrath. Any suggestion that a "foreign state" is interfering in their affairs will lead to accusations of "sell out" and warnings of civil war.

The Irish government, conscious of this potential backlash, recognizes that it will have no executive decision-making role in Ulster, given the constitutional position of Northern Ireland, once the talks are over.

It would, however, expect to take part in a bilateral committee or body which would oversee the implementation of any agreement and contribute towards future policymaking as the situation changed.

Whatever is agreed, Dr FitzGerald will not give his name to any document unless the substance is approved by Mr John Hume and his Social Democratic and Labour party colleagues in Ulster.

It is considered vital that any deal must allow Mr Hume, whose party commands 60 per cent of the nationalist vote, to demonstrate to his supporters that constitutional nationalism can achieve results.

One Dublin source said this week: "In the short term, there is no political advantage for the Irish Government in these talks but we feel history would never forgive us if we did not try."

For both governments, the long-term advantage is the alienation of Sinn Féin, which Dr FitzGerald says wants to establish a military dictatorship throughout Ireland. As ever, the shadow of the gunman is not far away.

Twenty New York police officers arrived in the seaside village of Bundoran, Co Donegal, in the Irish Republic yesterday, to march in an IRA supporters' rally today on the anniversary of Lord Mountbatten's murder six years ago a few miles along the coast.

The officers, members of the New York Police Emerald Society Pipe Band, said that they were not defying their commissioner by marching in the rally to commemorate the deaths of IRA hanger-on strikers.

A spokesman for the group said: "They are marching as American citizens."

The Irish Police Sergeants' and Inspectors' Association said: "Their decision to participate, however vaguely, in this march goes against the grain of policemen everywhere. They are marching for supporters of police killers."

Broadmoor nurses need better training

Better training in the physical control of patients at Broadmoor is recommended in a report published yesterday after an inquiry into the death of a man at the maximum security hospital.

The inquiry into the death of Michael Martin, aged 22, was ordered last year by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health.

Martin from Lewisham, south London, was found dead in a Broadmoor seclusion cell last July an hour and a quarter after he had been injected with a tranquillizer. He had choked on his vomit. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of "accidental death aggravated by lack of care".

Mr Clarke appointed Judge Shirley Ritchie, QC, to head the inquiry into the death after pressure from the prisoners' rights movement, Prop, and Martin's family.

The inquiry report recommends that more qualified nursing staff and occupational therapists should be employed at the Norfolk House "special care unit" which deals with the most disturbed patients.

It also recommends that proper training in physical control and restraint of patients should be given to nursing staff, and that a course recently introduced at the hospital should become a regular part of nurse training.

Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, said the Government would accept all recommendations, apart from the one concerning the administration of heavy sedatives solely by a doctor.

"Such a restriction would remove from qualified nursing staff the professional responsibility of exercising judgements on the administration of properly prescribed medicines", he said.

The mental health pressure group, Mind, attacked the Government's refusal to implement that recommendation as outrageous.

Bacteria alert

Firemen with gas-proof suits sealed off a cargo-handling area of Gatwick airport yesterday after a package containing gonorrhoea culture was found damaged, but the all-clear was given when the packages were found to be sealed inside its container.

Twins dies

Katie Chatterton, the identical twin who could never cry after she made medical history when she became the youngest child to have a tracheotomy, has died at Sheffield Children's Hospital after her first birthday.

Murder charge

Grenville Benjamin, aged 37, of Camden Street, Ladywood, Birmingham, was remanded in custody by Birmingham magistrates yesterday, charged with the murder of a court security guard, Mr John Reilly, aged 47, on Thursday.

Iraqi freed

Kuasi Ahmed, one of four Iraqis detained under the Prevention of Terrorism act and later with conspiracy to destroy £480,000 worth of batteries at Southampton airport was discharged by magistrates at Southampton yesterday.

Inquest on peer

An inquest on Lieutenant Colonel Lord Sinsir of Gifford, aged 65, who was found dead at his home in Cleve, Avon, with gunshot wounds, was opened at Pishrood in Avon yesterday and adjourned until September 27.

Falklands tribute

A new lifeboat at Tenby, Dyfed, is to be named The RFA Sir Galahad in tribute to Welsh guardsmen killed or injured when the landing vessel RFA Sir Galahad was bombed in Falklands Sound three years ago.

500 jobs go

West Cornwall's largest private employer, the mining equipment manufacturers CompAir Holman, yesterday announced that 500 of its 800 employees at Camborne were being made redundant.

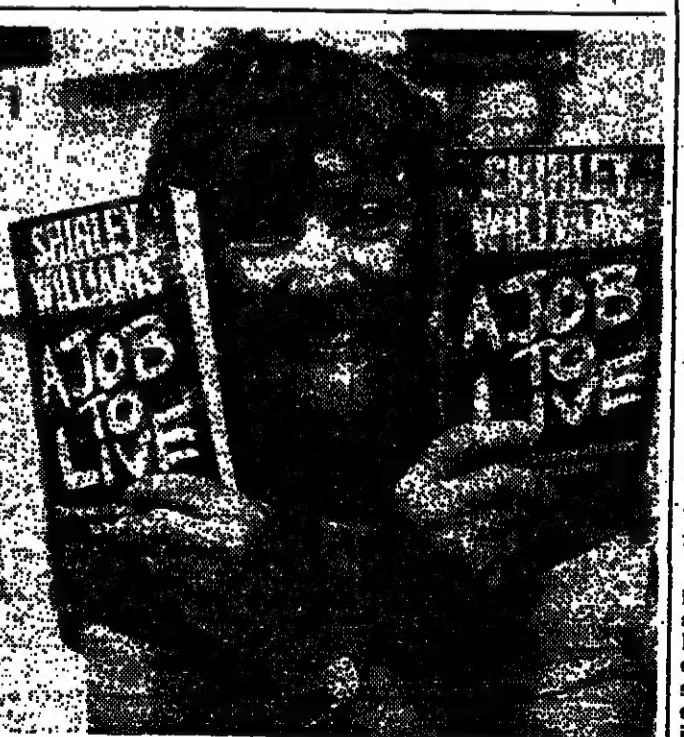
Railway plea

The Tunbridge Wells and Erigde Railway Preservation Society is to ask Mr Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, to delay for 90 days the dismantling of the line which was closed last month.

Cast of 6,000

Six thousand "resting" actors and actresses have replied to an advertisement seeking two dozen recruits to form a new company based at the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$10.00, Canada \$10.00, Europe £10.00, India \$10.00, Japan \$10.00, New Zealand \$10.00, Pakistan \$10.00, Singapore \$10.00, South Africa \$10.00, USA \$10.00, Yugoslavia \$10.00.



Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the Social Democrats, at Covent Garden yesterday when she signed copies of her book, A Job to Live. The signing is one of several to mark 50 years of Penguin Books (Photograph: John Voos).

Diet and dance call for bionic ballerinas

The physiological demands of today's dance world may have created a need for bionic ballerinas.

Research studies in the United States have discovered dietary deficiencies and demineralization of bone which may account for the high incidence of injuries in some ballet companies, according to an article in the latest edition of the medical journal The Lancet.

The article states that the larger ballet companies and schools already have medical advisers and it recommends that all ballet teachers and

organizations should have access to medical advice.

The American research also suggested that poor nutrition among dancers arose from their lack of information and understanding of the scientific principles of weight control.

The Lancet article pointed to two advances that have improved the management of dance injuries - early diagnosis by bone scanning, thermography or computerized tomography, and the recognition of the relationship between flexibility and injury.

The pattern of injury seemed to be related to age and skill, with knee and hip special risks in younger dancers. Older or professional dancers sustained lower leg, foot and ankle injuries.

The director of the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, Mr Peter Wright, said yesterday that dancers were becoming much stronger.

"This is a generation of extremely strong dancers who seem to have a special in-built strength and are more accident-resistant," he said.

Because of their peak physical fitness, dancers often recover very quickly from their injuries compared with less fit people, Mr Wright added.

But he said diet was a constant problem for all dancers, particularly ballerinas. Some had fallen victim to the slimmer's disease, anorexia nervosa, Mr Wright said all ballet and dance companies should explore the dancers' dietary difficulty.

The School of Contemporary Dance, in London, said diet was a personal choice among dancers, but it operated a counselling service that was available to anyone

Live football on radio

Live football will be back on BBC radio today. The corporation reached an agreement yesterday with the Football League for second half coverage on Radio 2 and local stations.

Arrangements were last night being made for a commentary on one of this afternoon's matches.

But there is still no sign of a deal allowing highlights and live matches to be shown on BBC television and ITV.

Neither the BBC nor the Football League would give details of yesterday's agreement.

Parents fail in whooping cough vaccination test case

Senior doctors have expressed serious doubts about a link between the triple whooping cough vaccine and brain damage.

In a test case in which the parents of a boy who suffered brain damage nine days after such a vaccination were seeking £145,000 damages, a doctor described as the "brainbox of paediatric neurology in Britain" said it was a fallacy to attribute to vaccine the cause of encephalopathy (brain damage) merely because of a time association.

Dr John Stephenson of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow, told Edinburgh's Court of Session that the more he studied the problem, the more the idea of a link between the triple whooping cough vaccine (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) and brain disorders seemed to approach vanishing point.

He accepted that the triple vaccine probably could cause acute neurological reactions, but was unconvinced that permanent damage resulted. He used to think that it could, but the more he knew about it, the less he was convinced that it occurred.

Another doctor who gave evidence in the case, Professor David Miller of St Mary's Hospital, London, said that the risk of a child developing encephalopathy nine days after being vaccinated was so small as to be incapable of statistical measurement.

In an 82-page judgement published yesterday, Lord Jauncey, who heard the doctor's evidence earlier this year, said that the parents of Richard Bonithorne had failed to demonstrate that on a balance of probabilities the child's brain damage had been caused by pertussis vaccine.

Mr John Bonithorne and his wife Iris had told the court that their son was given the first vaccination against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus in February 1976, when he was four months old. To prove immunity to whooping cough, he needed a second vaccination three months later. Nine days after that, he began to have convulsions.

The boy, now aged nine, now has a mental age of six months. His food has to be liquidized and he can do nothing for himself. Lord Jauncey says in his judgement that Richard had changed from being alert and playful to having no intellectual capacity or useful vision, and was prone to convulsions. "His only enjoyment in life appears to be in recognition of his mother's voice and in travel by motorcar".

The Bonithornes told the court that their son had been a normal, healthy baby before vaccination. They said they were not told that the vaccination carried a risk of serious and permanent effects and that they knew they would not have had the child vaccinated.

The couple, of Terrace Street, Embo, near Dornoch, Highland, had jointly sued the Fife Health Board, their Fife GP, and the health visitor employed by the board, Mrs M. Albiston.

The doctor and health visitor worked at a group surgery in Comely Park, Dunfermline.

The couple sued originally for £250,000, but damages were agreed later at £145,000 if the case was proved. They have already received £10,000 under the Vaccine Damage Payments Act and are expected to appeal against yesterday's ruling.

Richard Bonithorne is one of about 700 children thought to have been brain damaged by the vaccine. Their plight was publicized in 1973 with the formation of the Association of Parents of Vaccine Damaged Children.

Publicity given to the children led to a public scare about the vaccine's safety. Its acceptance rate - by parents - fell in England from 79 per cent in 1973 to 31 per cent in 1978.

WPCs praised for work with jet fire victims' families



Three policewomen, Karen Tracy, aged 20, Catherine Murphy, aged 25, and Geraldine Murphy, aged 24 (above, left to right), have been working round the clock talking to relatives of those who died in the aircraft disaster last week in Manchester.

They were chosen from the police casualty bureau for their "gentle touch". Each was allocated 18 families to question and piece together the details that would lead to identification of the 54 bodies brought from the Boeing 737.

The policewomen, who are all single and from the Greater Manchester Police's Oldham division, would talk only about the help they received from the families and the courage shown by the bereaved, but a senior officer described yesterday how harrowing their task had been.

The women had been working very long hours. Chief Supt Kenneth Williams, of Greater Manchester police said, "Every contact made by the police with the bereaved was through them. The tears are there from time to time. If the phone stops ringing for a while and they reflect what has happened then they break down a little," he said.

Miss Tracy who has been in the force for years after two years as a police cadet said: "All the relatives were very helpful to us. We got on well with everyone we spoke to."

"We had to ask them for all sorts of details but there were

Shooting inquiry petition fails

The West Midlands police committee yesterday rejected a petition for a public inquiry into the death of John Shorthouse aged five, killed in his bed when a police firearm was discharged during a raid on his home.

Instead, the committee backed a request from the chief constable, Mr Geoffrey Dear, who has asked the Police Complaints Authority to make a full report known to the committee and other interested parties, including MPs.

Mr Dear said there was no machinery to create a public inquiry unless the Home Secretary wished to order one.

But Mr Dear heard his force described as having an appalling record with firearms, as being

accident-prone, and as being more like Bud Abbott and Lou Costello than Starkey and Hutch.

The committee was called to discuss the shooting of the boy in Birmingham last Saturday. The chairman, Mr Edwin Shore, said that they must not be wholly critical or wholly supportive. The police could not always be right or always be wrong.

He said: "You cannot balance tragedy in scales, on one side the death of a child and on the other side the arduous and difficult problems of the police."

Mr Dear said that understandably people were lumping together incidents which were not altogether well related. He

referred to the shooting of Gail Kinchin, aged 16, five years ago when she was being used by a gunman as a shield on the dark stairs of a block of flats. All that officers could see was a shape when they returned fire.

Mrs Ann Withers, one of the organizers of a petition demanding a public inquiry, said last night they had collected 615 names in two days.

She said: "What they think about the inquiry by the police into the police is irrelevant. We do not want a whitewash."

Of the Shorthouse incident, she said: "They say this type of gun does not need a safety catch because it is hard to pull the trigger. If that is so how did it go off?"

Detective 'with gun threw child'

A girl aged two was man-handled by an armed detective during a raid on the home of a suspected drugs dealer. Liverpool magistrates were told yesterday.

David Hickman's daughter was grabbed by the police officer, who had a gun in his hand, and was thrown on to a sofa, it was alleged.

Mr Hickman's solicitor, Mr Paul Rooney, said that a tragedy similar to the Birmingham incident where a boy aged five was shot by police could easily have happened.

Mr Paul Rooney said: "The front door was kicked in and six armed policemen entered the house. The defendant was forced to lie on the floor of the house with guns at his head. Because of a previous raid the police must have known there was a very young child in the house."

Mr Rooney said that he would be writing to Merseyside's Chief Constable to demand an investigation into the incident on August 23. Hickman, aged 34, of Stonefield Road, Dovecot, Liverpool, faces three drugs charges including possessing heroin with intent to supply it. He was remanded in custody for a week.

Truncheons for women police

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Metropolitan Police is considering issuing martial arts style truncheons to women police officers, according to the *Police Review*.

The truncheon is 10 inches long and incorporates a chain which can be attached to a forceful officer to enable it to be swung at an attacker.

The article says: "Officers will be trained to smash the stick below an attacker's nose, to stab at male genitals, and to use the ringed shaft as a restraint on the wrist of an

opponent." The new stick will be carried below a handbag so that it can be immediately available.

Police Review understands that the new model truncheon has already been demonstrated to Assistant Commissioner Hugh Annesley, in charge of personnel and training, and other senior officers.

The demonstration was arranged to compare the use of the new truncheon with another weapon, the octagonal restraint stick.

The new truncheon has been designed by the Metropolitan Police director of physical training, Brigadier R. C. Skinner, who has already prepared a 50-page training manual.

Scotland Yard said: "The octagonal restraint stick and defender baton truncheon with chain are two of a number of designs we are evaluating. We are looking for a defensive instrument for a general use, including by women officers. There is no general issue of truncheons to women officers."

£75,000 gas blast: 2 accused

Two men charged with causing criminal damage to three houses in a gas explosion on Thursday were remanded in custody by Liverpool magistrates yesterday.

The court was told that Mr William Doyle, aged 23, and Mr Reginald Jones, aged 29, cut through a pipe at the council house of Mr Doyle's sister, Mrs Mary Jones, to remove her gas cooker.

The explosion occurred when Mrs Jones turned the gas back on. It demolished the two-bedroom terrace house in Toxteth, Liverpool, and both neighbouring houses on a newly built estate.

Mrs Jones and six other residents, including a baby, aged 11 days, and two women needed hospital treatment.

Miss Susan Bethel, for the prosecution, told the court. Various threats from people in the neighbourhood have been made towards the defendants and there are fears for their safety if they were released back into the community.

Mr Doyle, who is unemployed, and Mr Jones, a labourer, both of Toxteth, were charged with causing criminal damage, estimated at £75,000, to the three homes.

Miss Bethel said they admitted reckless behaviour in cutting the pipe, although the gas was switched off.

Both men were remanded in custody until September 6.

Fraud teams save £1½m in benefits

An experimental multi-force investigation by social security officers in west London, said the *Times*, Valley is believed to have saved £500,000 in benefits.

For six weeks, 39 officers from four mobile teams investigated claims at benefit offices in Reading, Slough, Windsor, Hounslow, Camberley, Maidenhead, Bracknell, and Wokingham.

Of 2,300 people investigated, 689 had their claims withdrawn. Some have been considered for prosecution.

A Department of Employment spokesman said yesterday: "We shall be studying the results of the experiment very carefully. It is possible that similar operations may now take place in other parts of the country."

"We picked benefit offices in west London and the Thames Valley where there are a high number of job vacancies compared with the national average."

The department would not put an official figure on the benefit saved by the operation but officers involved gave the £500,000 estimate.

The operation was welcomed by Dr Alan Glynn, Conservative MP for Windsor and Maidenhead.

Nine mobile teams of social security investigators have been working nationally for two years. Last year they saved taxpayers more than £3.5 million.

Islanders seek BT's ear on cheaper phone calls

Having telephones has proved a burden for Britain's northernmost inhabitants, the Shetland Islanders.

The 3,000 crofters, farmers and fishermen of the outlying islands, Unst, Yell, Fetlar Foula and Fair Isle have to pay full trunk call rates every time they make an off-island call. Repeated pleas for special consideration have been refused by British Telecom.

Now the Islanders, who own 750,000 shares in the corporation, are sending Mr Jim Irvine as their representative to British Telecom's first annual meeting to protest. He will be among 10,000 shareholders expected at the National Exhibition Centre, near Birmingham, on Wednesday.

Mr Irvine, secretary of the Islands' Council for Social Services and the Association of Shetland Community Councils, said that in 1983 the 23,000 Islanders made almost two million trunk calls.

Telephone bills on the islands average £400 a year. The Shetlands have 8,405 telephones, 5,528 occupied houses.

"If people on the outlying islands need anything to order supplies, get spare parts, call their children at school they must do it by telephone," he said. "Telephones are not a luxury; they are vital to the life of the islands."

M25 airport link faces more delay

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

The Department of Transport yesterday announced a further delay in the opening of a key section of London's M25 orbital motorway, between Reigate and Leatherhead in Surrey, linking Heathrow and Gatwick airports. The new planned date is October 7.

If the contractors, Birse-Farr, fail to complete work on time, they face a Department of Transport claim for damages.

The opening of the 4½-mile stretch was originally scheduled for last spring, but in 1984 Birse-Farr were granted a six-month extension and work was stopped for several months last winter.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said in the Commons last January that the contractors were entitled to stop work provided they met their new deadline of August 26 (last Monday), but she thought it "most unreasonable".

The contractors were recently given a two weeks' further extension to September 9, but the department said yesterday that if they failed to finish by then, damages could be payable.

Some critical work still remained to be done, the Department said, on sealing joints between the concrete slabs, soiling verges and imposing road markings, all work that needed dry weather.

Mr George Gardner, Conservative MP for Reigate, said yesterday he would be pressing the Secretary of State for Transport, Mr Nicholas Ridley, for a full public statement.

Mr Peter Burchill, financial director of the Farr Group which is building the section jointly with Birse, said yesterday that the delays were due to Specification changes by the department, he strongly denied allegations of poor workmanship.

Private hospital group plans casualty unit

The largest private hospital group in Britain plans to open the first casualty unit which will be independent of the health service.

American Medical International intends to apply for planning permission to build the unit in Windsor, Berkshire, after the decision by the district health authority to close the casualty unit at the King Edward VII Hospital.

The clinic would be linked to a new private hospital and served by private GPs. If it is successful other units will be built at AMI hospitals.

AMI recently took over the Harrow Health Care Centre, the controversial private GP service, and is considering moving into areas such as obstetrics and geriatric care. It also wants to change the nature of private medicine by treating more people as out-patients.

Mr George Burleson, the company's chief executive, said he did not intend AMI's expansion to rival the NHS. "It is more to complement and offer a viable alternative to the NHS," he said.

AMI believed that the demand for acute care, the traditional market for private medicine, was largely satisfied, and so was looking for alternatives.

The company was discussing with private medical insurance companies the possibility of expanding the areas of treatment it would cover, although an agreement was still far off.

"We are not doing so hot at the moment. But I think that the future prospects look much better than they have done before," Mr Burleson said.

AMI went ahead with the purchase of the loss-making GP centre in Harrow in spite of insurance companies not offering cover for primary care. The company believes it can cut overheads to break even.

Education drive to stop spread of Aids

Health ministers are preparing a public education programme to try to prevent the spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (Aids) and to calm public fears.

Latest figures show that by the end of July there had been 196 cases of Aids diagnosed in Britain and 110 deaths. At the British Association for the Advancement of Science conference in Glasgow on Tuesday, Dr Donald Acheson, chief medical officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, said the key to controlling the disease lay in "education about the nature of the risks and practical advice on how to avoid them."

What form the education campaign will take is not yet known. Ministers are said to be considering "a whole range of options".

Other measures against Aids being taken by the department include the screening of all blood transfusion donations, guidance to the medical profession, and that heat treatment of all imported blood products until Britain becomes self-sufficient next year.

The US drug company, Abbott Laboratories, is meanwhile trying to persuade the department to permit the use of its Aids diagnosis kit in Britain. The kit, which its makers claim can detect carriers of the Aids virus, is in worldwide use, but it was rejected after being tested by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

Volunteer crews are to be sought by Yorkshire Television when they record a programme on Aids on Tuesday. Staff safety representatives had expressed fears about the programme, part of the series *Where There's a Life*, presented by Dr Miriam Stopard. It is due to be broadcast on September 25.

The company said yesterday "Nobody will be pressured into going into the studio against their will. The purpose of the programme is in part to allay public fears."

Porters and other staff at Luton and Dunstable Hospital in Bedfordshire, have demanded an inquiry into why they were not told a dying patient had Aids, until he died.

A Confederation of Health Service Employees shop steward, Tony Dixon, said yesterday that auxiliary staff should have been told about the risks as soon as Aids had been diagnosed.

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FRAMLINGTON

Presidential elections for Singapore

Lee's eye on a new career

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

Singapore is moving towards a new constitutional system under which the president will be elected by the whole electorate. The Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, confirmed yesterday.

His first formal indication of this came during his speech to MPs, asking them to elect Mr Wee Kim Wee, a diplomat, and former journalist, as President of the island republic.

The ruling People's Action Party and the two Opposition members for once concurred on the choice, and Mr Wee, aged 69, was voted unanimously for a four-year term. His election ends five months of uncertainty, after the resignation of his predecessor, Mr Devan Nair, on medical grounds. He admitted to being an alcoholic.

But speculation thus centred on Mr Lee's comments on the future of the presidency, and the prospect of the Prime Minister himself standing for a revamped and strengthened office of head of State.

"Mr Wee," the Prime Minister

disclosed, "knew that this job would not be for life. The President after him is likely to be elected by the whole electorate."

"His term is for four years, but it may turn out to be less if the amendments to our constitution for a President to be elected by the electorate are ready before then."

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, aged 61, has already announced that he will retire from the premiership when he is 65 in September, 1988. But he has also said he "would not rule out" running for the presidency, and such is his charisma as the founding father of the nation that he would sweep the board in a popular poll.

Constitutional changes now being worked out by Government law officers will lift the presidency from its present largely ceremonial role to a stronger executive function.

For instance, the president's permission would be required

before any government could lay its hands on the huge foreign reserves built up during 20 years of uninterrupted People's Action Party rule. The prime minister is said to fear that a future populist government would seek to buy its way out of trouble by using the hard-won reserves amounting to some \$8 billion.

The new president, said by some observers to be "keeping the seat warm" for Mr Lee, has been chairman of the Singapore Broadcasting Corporation for the past year. The son of a poor ship's cargo clerk, he started his working life as a clerk with the Straits Times.

After a long spell as a journalist he became a diplomat, spending seven years as High Commissioner in Kuala Lumpur and more than three years as ambassador in Tokyo.

The constitutional changes which may cut short his presidential career will be published as a white paper in

1987, the government has promised.

MPs also gave the required two-thirds majority yesterday to another constitutional measure which will permit the Government to deprive Singaporeans of their citizenship if they stay out of the country, without returning, for 10 years. Mr S Jayakumar, Minister for Home Affairs, promised the Government "will be selective and will not deprive the citizenship of persons who have good reason to be away."

The Government says there are considerable problems with people who left Singapore in the 1950s and 1960s when the country was going through difficult times.

Some young Singaporeans are thought to have left to avoid compulsory military service, while a small proportion are claimed to be political opponents of the Government who fled, in most cases, to Britain.



Journalists in Manila cutting their arms with knives and razors to draw blood, which they then used to sign a manifesto on the unsolved killings of 22 of their colleagues in the past six years.

Teamsters scandal refuses to go away

From Christopher Thomas Washington

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters is gripped by yet another complex scandal, this time involving embezzlement, false imprisonment, death threats, the Mafia and, not unusually, a lot of money. The shadow of the latest drama has also fallen over the United States Justice Department.

At the centre of it all, not untypically is Mr Jackie Presser, the 21-stone teamsters' leader who despite recently forsaking his black shirts and white ties for more conservative business attire still looks like the caricature of a 1930s gangster.

The latest scandal arose when the Justice Department mysteriously dropped a 32-month embezzlement investigation into Mr Presser's alleged hiring of "ghost" workers, people who received union salaries without doing any work.

"Thank God it's over," Mr Presser said when the inquiry was dropped. It is far from over, however. It is now suspected that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had a confidential relationship with Mr Presser. When the Justice Department discovered the relationship, it dropped its investigation. Why? Was Mr Presser an FBI informer?

A federal grand jury in Cleveland, Ohio, has demanded explanations from the Justice Department, and a Senate subcommittee is conducting its own inquiries.

The ghost workers were convicted of embezzlement, but it is possible that they were hired at the instigation of the FBI as part of an investigation into scamster links with the Mafia.



Mr Presser: what was his relationship with the FBI?

Solidarity celebrates as it faces an uncertain future

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

The flowers, red and white carnations, bundles of crumpled dahlias, were piled up from early morning at the foot of the three-tiered concrete crosses near the gates of the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk.

Five years ago Solidarity was born there and yesterday nobody really knew whether the flowers were in memoriam or quite simply, a birthday gift from the workers to the Soviet bloc's only free and independent trade union.

Mr Lech Walesa left the shipyard after the morning's work, and, cushioned by about 500 of his colleagues, laid his own bouquet. After a moment's silence, he turned to the crowd and joined them in singing

Brave words in rectory

"Poland is not yet lost". Hands were raised in V-signs and Mr Walesa's voice floated over the heads: "Mr General, we will never give up Solidarity."

Later, there were brave words in the rectory of the shipyard church of Saint Brigid's as Mr Walesa introduced a 500-page analysis on the state of the nation, commissioned by Solidarity.

"Five years are a big slice of a man's life, but only a small fragment of the life of a nation. Five years ago we took a huge gulp of democracy... and now the authorities should remember that they will pass away and the nation will remain. No nation, and in particular the Polish nation, will surrender freedom for slavery and democracy for dictatorship," he said.

He called for the freedom of all political prisoners - now officially conceded to be more than 200 - for the restoration of

workers' rights, for independent economic initiatives, and the defence of Polish culture.

On August 31, 1980, Mr Walesa, the chairman of Solidarity, signed the Gdansk agreement with a nervous Polish Government on the brink of collapse. He used a gaudy, outsized pen as if to mock the gold Parker flourisher by his well-tailored counterpart from the Warsaw leadership.

The Government pledged to allow free trade unions, to improve meat supplies, housing and the health service, to give fair wages and reinstate sacked "troublemakers". The authorities say they have kept their end of the bargain apart, as they say, from the unrealistic demands.

Solidarity was suspended 16 months later, when General Jaruzelski declared martial law, and outlawed completely in October, 1982. For Solidarity supporters - the union claimed 10 million members at its peak - that was the final betrayal of Gdansk and a sign too that the Warsaw Government would never again negotiate with the union.

For the past three years, August 31 has been marked by angry demonstrations and running street fights in the main Polish cities.

Mr Walesa now says that time is past, the massed forces of Zomo riot battalions with their water cannon and tear gas and new laws extending the powers of arrest and demonstrations make this level of protest costly and dangerous.

"In the second stage of our activities, we need not millions of demonstrators fighting against police but small wise

groups composed of thinking people with broad vision, building slowly but effectively a concrete programme so that when the third stage comes we will be able to exist again as a multi-million force which will know what to do and how to do it," he said.

Solidarity says it is alive and kicking. In a recent Western interview with fugitive Solidarity leader Zbigniew Bajak, aged 30, he claimed that "we now have about 50,000 to 70,000 activists who participate directly in our work."

Certainly Solidarity can claim the most sophisticated underground press under communism, producing secretly and distributing counter-revolutionary books, weeklies, and quarterlies a year. Solidarity too is an idea

Early warning system on unrest

that has taken root in the factories.

Despite the rhetoric, Solidarity still exists in the minds of the Communist Party, if only as a caricature counter-revolutionary demon that is wheeled out when there is too much talk of reform.

The principal conclusion drawn by the Government from the Solidarity experience is that it wants to stay in touch with every fluctuation of public opinion and through a complex web of opinion polls has developed an early warning system against unrest.

The news that filters through is not good. In response to a recent official poll question "Do you think the Government will be able to overcome the economic crisis?" - 64 per cent replied "No" or "Probably not". That is fertile ground for Solidarity, the union that is officially dead.

EEC urged to help beat forest fires

From Mario Modiano Athens

Forestry experts from 12 European countries meeting in Athens called for a common policy and joint action against fires and acid rain, as Greece was recovering from forest fires that destroyed nearly 300,000 acres of woodland.

Mr Dimitris Kanellopoulos of Greece, who was elected vice-president of the European Foresters Union at its tenth congress here this week, told a Press conference he estimated that 70 per cent of forest fires in Greece had been started deliberately. Forest fires here traditionally have been attributed to land speculators.

The congress, in a resolution, urged the European Community to allocate generous funds for fire prevention to the Mediterranean countries. To deal with acid rain, which was killing trees in northern Europe, the congress recommended more research and pollution controls.

● PARIS: More than 86,000 acres of forest and brush were destroyed by fires in France during the first eight months of this year, more than double the total in the whole of last year (Diana Geddes writes).

Eight firemen and two pilots of fire fighting aircraft have been killed this year and three aircraft have been lost. Two-thirds of the total area destroyed by fire is in Corsica.

Violence in Guatemala

Guatemala City (Reuters) - Riot police arrested hundreds of students and fired teargas yesterday to break up violent protests against a 50 per cent rise in transport fares.

They said demonstrators set fire to or damaged more than a dozen buses during a march to

Court clears way to Aquino acquittals

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The Philippines Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the testimony of the armed forces' chief, General Fabian Ver, and seven others before a commission of inquiry last year, cannot be used against them in their trial for the murder of Benigno Aquino, the Opposition leader killed two years ago.

The decision clears the way for the acquittal of General Ver, Manila's police chief, Major-General Prospero Olivas, and six soldiers accused of trying to cover up alleged military involvement in the assassination, court sources said.

This is because the prosecution admits openly that the only evidence it has against the seven is based on their testimonies at the civilian commission. Last October the commission named General Ver, 34 soldiers, and a civilian, accused as an accomplice in the alleged military conspiracy, could be sentenced to life imprisonment.

● Journalist killings: An inquiry into the killing of 22 Filipino journalists in the past six years has been ordered by President Marcos after he received an urgent "petition for action" signed by 500 journalists.

Ten journalists have been killed since June "in an orgy of violence against newsmen unequalled in the world," said the National Press Club president, Mr Tony Neiva.

Anti-Arab mood helps Kahane

From David Bernstein Jerusalem

Rabbi Meir Kahane's openly racist Kach party, apparently riding the current wave of anti-Arab sentiment in Israel, would increase its strength tenfold and win as many as 11 seats in the 120-member Knesset if elections were held now, according to recent public opinion polls.

The latest poll, commissioned by the *Jerusalem Post*, shows that Rabbi Kahane, who advocates the expulsion of all Arabs from Israel and the territories occupied in 1967 as well as the establishment of an exclusive Jewish state based on Halachic (religious) law, would receive 9 per cent of the votes in a new election. This would give his Party 10 seats in the Knesset, under Israel's proportional representation system.

A poll conducted a few days earlier for the mass-circulation *Maariv*, found that the party would do slightly better and gain as many as 11 seats, compared with the single seat won in last year's election.

Moreover, 7 per cent of the 1,300 questioned in the *Jerusalem Post* poll said they would vote for the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party. Tehiya, like Kach, advocates a Jewish state in the entire area west of the Jordan river but, unlike Kach, it pays lip service to the notion of civil equality for the Arabs, provided it does not jeopardize the fundamental Jewish character of the state.

Tehiya would thus gain seven or eight seats in a new election, compared with the five won last year.

Israel detains 14 more on the West Bank

Jerusalem - The Israeli military authorities have served administrative detention orders on another 14 residents of the occupied West Bank (David Bernstein writes).

The orders bring to 34 the number of West Bank Palestinians now being held without trial under the tough regime Israel instituted at the beginning of the month to cope with the deteriorating security situation.

Despite the measures, attacks on Israelis in the occupied areas have continued. A Jerusalem rabbi was stabbed and seriously injured on Thursday evening outside the Dafnasas, Gale in Arab east Jerusalem and a youth, aged 17, from the West Bank town of Hebron was arrested and is reported to have confessed to the stabbing.

Uganda is short of everything except guns

From Richard Dowden Kampala

It took a senior official in the Ministry of Planning 40 minutes and seven phone calls to discover that he could not get a copy of the last budget.

"You see," he explained, "there was a shortage of paper and very few were printed. My own copy appears to have been taken. There should be one in the library but the librarian hasn't come today."

His explanation, touching on three of Uganda's main problems - shortages, looting and absenteeism - probably said more about the state of the economy than the budget itself.

Because of Uganda's enormous potential wealth, there is always hope amid the ruins. The proverbial fertility of the soil and climate, endless supplies of water, deposits of copper, cobalt, tin and wolfram, the potential for tourism and one of the most highly Western-educated and trained populations in Africa, make Uganda a promised land. Instead it lies devastated and divided.

According to World Bank figures, the annual growth rate fell by more than 1 per cent between 1960 and 1982, and between 1972 and 1980 the gross domestic product fell 1.5 per cent. Mr Ibrahim Kannyamba, the former acting Finance Minister, said at a recent conference that the country was still worse off than in 1971 when General Idi Amin took over.

Exports of coffee, which form 90 per cent of Uganda's exports, have dropped from 214,200 tonnes in 1972 to 133,200 tonnes last year, while exports of cotton have dropped over the same period from 66,100 tonnes to 6,700 tonnes. The Kilelesh Copper mine has produced nothing since 1980.

The Obote government, from 1981 until the coup in July, pursued a tight fiscal policy and was warmly praised by the

World Bank for it. There has undoubtedly been some progress since the devastation and disruption caused in the 1979 overthrow of former President Amin, but Ugandan planning officials estimate that it will take into the 1990s to rehabilitate the economy, even if there is peace from now on.

The only things not in short supply in the country appear to be guns and ammunition. With everything else shortages and inflation have sent prices rocketing. Salaries have not kept up with prices, so most people in towns take time off work to carry on *magendo* - illicit trading - on the side. The

most vigorous economic activity in Uganda is simply buying goods at one price and holding them or moving them and selling them at another. This, of course, adds nothing to the economy and forces up the end price for the consumer.

"What is the point of investing?" said one businessman. "As soon as you build something up, it will get looted. It is better to make a quick profit in buying and selling."

Everyone waits for the outcome of the peace talks in Nairobi, which they hope will bring an end to the political chaos at the root of Uganda's malaise.

Killer bees reach California

Sacramento (Reuters) - Californian officials have asked the public to help prevent the spread of killer bees from a swarm discovered about 100 miles north of Los Angeles.

The bees, notorious for vicious attacks, were discovered by a wildlife worker in late June. Scientists identified them last week as descendants of the "Africanized" bees which escaped from a Brazilian research project and have been slowly migrating northward for the past five years.

The bees had not been expected in the United States for several years. Officials speculated they were transported to California with oil drilling equipment.

Clara Berryhill, director of the state's Department of Food and Agriculture, has ordered the destruction of wild bee colonies within a 10-mile radius of the Kern County site where the swarm was found.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION

● Diet and heart disease

● Star Wars

● Thinking computers

● Scenic roads

Link between heart disease and high-fat diet challenged

The public health message that changes in diet can reduce the risk of heart disease was challenged by Professor Michael Oliver, a leading cardiologist, yesterday.

Professor Oliver, addressing the British Association at Strathclyde University, Glasgow, said current advice on food and cholesterol levels has made little impact on the death rate internationally from the disease. "In their zeal to get this message across, the enthusiasts have allowed themselves to go beyond the facts," he said.

Professor Oliver, of Edinburgh University, added: "If I had adhered to a low-fat diet for the last 25 years, I don't believe my risk factor would have been altered, and there is no proof that it might have been."

"It is unlikely that we will be able to make much impact in preventing coronary heart disease until we have improved the methods of predicting those most likely to get it. This is an unpopular message with health

educators, who assume too readily that downturns in the incidence of heart disease have resulted from prevention campaigns."

Reports by Pearce Wright and Thomson Prentice

The results of mass intervention to reduce the risk through altering lifestyles have not been impressive, with considerable expense resulting in little or no reduction in heart disease, he said.

"While there is no denying that those who smoke have high blood cholesterol, and those with high blood pressure have a higher incidence of heart disease, the actual risk over a period of 25 years is low with no more than one-third of these supposedly high-risk individuals developing the disease," he said. "If intervention is given to reduce their risk, the majority will be treated unnecessarily."

The recent results of the Medical Research Council's mild hypertension trial had shown that the reduction of blood pressure made no impact on heart disease. "The question of how to identify the high risk population simply, cheaply, effectively and without causing anxiety has to be examined," Professor Oliver said.

Alternative approaches to identifying heart disease included looking for clinical features such as traces of cholesterol in the pupils of the eyes in children, or patches of cholesterol on the faces or hands of patients. But some health educators either chose to ignore or were ignorant of such approaches.

"It is very simplistic to assume that we are going to get control of coronary heart disease through health promotion alone," the professor said. "Promoting a change in lifestyle may take precious and



Professor Oliver, who questioned food theories.

scarce resources away from the very much needed research.

"We still cannot predict who is going to have a coronary thrombosis and an enormous amount of work is needed before we will know who is at risk from it. We may have to wait 15 or 20 years for those answers."

Scenic road to preserve beauty sites

A new category of "scenic road" should be introduced to safeguard areas of natural beauty such as Loch Lomond, it was suggested.

Professor Joy Tivy, of the geography department of Glasgow University, said little thought had been given to the effect of upgrading the road which runs along the west side of the "bonny banks".

She told the meeting: "One can but wonder why there is no specific category of scenic road in Britain - constructed to appropriate aesthetic standards and with speed limits suitable to the nature of the area."

Mr Graeme Morrison, chief ranger of the National Trust for Scotland, said vegetation was being destroyed.

"Without roots to bind it, bare soil or exposed peat rapidly erodes under the influence of running water and more feet, and the beaten path becomes a quagmire of soggy peat or a deep scar of eroding mineral soil."

Star Wars 'threat to planet's survival'

The American Strategic Defence Initiative (Star Wars) programme was described yesterday by Dr David Baker, a scientist with 20 years' experience with the American National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as something that "threatens the very sanity and survival of the planet."

Dr Baker, who is managing director of Space Services International, outlined to the association the technical details of the new type of computer and communications systems needed for a space-based scheme.

He reviewed the present state of research of the new types of weapons - space lasers, ground-based lasers, space-based particle beams, and nuclear-driven directed-energy weapons - on which the destruction of Soviet missiles depended.

Dr Baker said that there were those who rampantly supported the concept, those who vehemently opposed it, and those with confused uncertainty. He said: "It is for you to

conclude what you will about the nature of the programme I have discussed. For myself I can only tell you this, I think we may have thought something up this decade that threatens the very sanity and survival of the planet."

Dr Baker said later that no one knew whether a totally defensive screen was possible. It was putting the cart before the horse to make the decision about what systems could be before they had been built.

Much hardware for the programme was already being built.

He said: "If a shield is put into place or if the machinery for a shield is constructed it will take many years to put that up. It will be a terribly destabilizing time."

He believed that the research should go ahead, however, "because we must know what these systems can do if only to be aware of developments that could occur in the Soviet Union or in China in the next century."

Computers that shape thinking

Computers of the future could help to teach humans how to think. Professor Robert Kowalski of Imperial College, London, said.

"The question we normally associate with artificial intelligence is whether it will ever be possible to teach computers how to think. He said however, progress has now reached the stage where it makes just as much sense to ask whether the development of more intelligent computers can teach humans themselves how to think."

Professor Kowalski said that the development of more advanced and more intelligent computers would help people to understand better the nature of problem-solving in general.

"This will advance the stage of computer technology. But just as importantly it will help us to clarify and improve the effectiveness of our own human thinking. We should look forward to the advent of such computers."

US gets tougher with Pretoria and says talks must include ANC

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The United States, deeply frustrated and increasingly embarrassed by the lack of political progress in South Africa, is toughening its public condemnation of the Pretoria Government while still struggling to save its battered policy of "constructive engagement".

Administration policymakers are insisting that South Africa must include the outlawed African National Congress in talks on ending apartheid.

A senior official who helped devise constructive engagement, described by the ANC as "one of a number of important political parties" that should be consulted.

The Administration believes it has extremely limited leverage on South Africa, but there was clear reluctance at this stage to use the economic weapons at its disposal.

It is taking no action, for example, to block emergency help from private banks and other lending institutions being sought by Dr Gerhard de Kock, head of the South African Reserve Bank, who is visiting New York and Washington to try to shore up his country's foreign credit.

Domestic pressures for a more aggressive American approach to South Africa have been left to make up their own minds about Dr de Kock's request for fresh credits that would enable South Africa to repay more than \$11.5 billion (\$8.2 billion) of short-term debt due next year.

The official said American and European banks were reaching their own independent conclusions about investment in South Africa without reference to governments.

Dr de Kock, who held talks at the Bank of England in London, arrived in New York yesterday. Financial observers believe it is possible that one or more central banks will grant a credit line secured by gold stocks. The IMF might grant up to \$950 million a year for three years, but executive directors of the IMF from black African countries might seek strict preconditions or even oppose any assistance.

South Africa last drew on the IMF quota in late 1982, obtaining a credit of about \$370 million. It borrowed about half that amount, of which \$110 million is still owed.

Dr de Kock will return to London to address a private group of international financial specialists on September 5.

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Tamils blockade railway stations

From Richard Ford, Delhi

Police detained more than 2,500 people in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu yesterday as thousands of Tamils demonstrated over deportation orders issued against two of their leaders.

A blockade of railway lines caused widespread disruption of long-distance and commuter train services in Tiruvavur and Thanjavur district along with trains between Villupuram and Pondicherry.

Five thousand people protested outside Thanjavur station, halting all services and at Tiruvavur 1,500 people squatted on the track to stop trains moving.

Despite revoking the deportation order against one leading Tamil representative, Mr S. Chandrasekaran, who returned to Madras after refusing to enter the United States, the Tamil Eelam Supporters' Organization refused to call off its blockade and demanded that deportation orders against another two Tamil leaders also be withdrawn.

Antony Balasingam of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam has been deported to Madras after refusing to enter the United States. The Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (Zelo), had already left India when a deportation order was issued last weekend.

The Government has been condemned by opposition MPs for its action which began to look clumsy and embarrassing when Mr Chandrasekaran insisted on returning to India where he has been living since leaving Sri Lanka in 1983.

It appears that the Indian Government was angered by their militant stance over talks between Tamil representatives and the Sri Lankan Government at Thimpu and wanted them out of the country.

Commander retires: The commander of the Government forces fighting an uprising of Tamil separatists is retiring, a Sri Lankan Government spokesman said yesterday (AP reports).

Lieutenant-General Tissa Weeraratne, who commanded the Army until May, has been head of the new Joint Operations Command responsible for military action in the troubled North-East.

Mr Gambo, who took reporters round the NSO's main interrogation centre in the Ikoyi district of Lagos, said some of the detainees had been held for more than 18 months.

Nigerian television showed film of the dishevelled inmates, most of them wearing only a

towel round their waist. One had a fractured skull and wounds on his back and buttocks.

Mr Gambo said most were in "battered condition" apparently after interrogation by NSO officials whose chief, Mr Muhammad Rafiqi, has been held since Tuesday's coup.

One of the detainees was said to be a West German and newspapers said yesterday that an unspecified number of other foreigners were also being held, mostly on allegations of illegal entry.

Nigeria's new military president, Major-General Ibrahim Babangida, said in his first broadcast on Tuesday that his Government would look into human rights abuses under the Buhari regime in which he

served as army Chief of Staff.

President Babangida yesterday swore in a 28-member ruling council to replace the disbanded Supreme Military Council.

The President's post in the old administration goes to Major General Sani Abacha, who led a coup that returned the military to power in 1983.

The former civilian President, Mr Shehu Shagari, has been under house arrest since that coup and the new regime has not yet indicated whether he will be freed.

Western diplomats yesterday expressed optimism about the tone of the new ruler's first broadcast and British diplomats said they hoped a planned visit by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary planned for September 10 would go ahead

in connection with two armed jewel robberies in California, a police spokesman said. Andrew Eggington, aged 42, of Brighton, was arrested on a warrant from California police through Interpol.

Mountain toll

Islamabad (Reuters) - Two British climbers, Michael Harber and Michael Morris, missing in the Karakoram mountain range in northern Pakistan since last month are believed to be dead and a search for them has been abandoned, British Embassy sources here said.

Dhaka dragnet

Dhaka (Reuters) - Special police squads have arrested nearly 3,000 rapists, murderers, prostitutes, thieves and other law-breakers in the past month in a crackdown against rising crime in Bangladesh, police said.

Growing family

Alicante (AP) - A 28-year-old mother of three who had been taking fertility drugs has given birth to sextuplets here. The five girls born to Señora Germaine Ferry Clemente were alive but in serious condition but a boy had died.

Arms cache

Brussels (AFP) - Police have found a second cache of arms apparently hidden by left-wing extremists responsible for 18 bomb attacks in Belgium in the past 11 months, officials of the state prosecutor's office have said.

Kharg hit again

Nicosia (AP) - Iraq said its jets raided Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal to prevent repairs for damage caused in two earlier raids this month. The Iraqi bombers dropped a total of 12 bombs.

Swiss blast

Walsensiedt (Reuters) - A shrapnel mine exploded during preparations for Swiss Army munitions exercises here, killing a Defence Ministry official.

Nato pays tribute to the Royal Navy

From Rodney Cowton, on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Fort Austin, western Atlantic

The Royal Navy's achievements in anti-submarine warfare are being acknowledged in several ways in the big Nato naval exercise, Ocean Safari, which involved more than 200 ships and submarines and is now in progress in the Western Atlantic.

Admiral Wesley McDonald, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, said that the Soviet Union's submarine threat was the one that most worried him. In the last two decades the West's technological advantage in this field has been reduced by half.

The British hunter-killer submarines and anti-submarine warfare capability were a vital element in anything the alliance did at sea. The Royal Navy's towed array sonars - listening devices which are towed behind ships and submarines to detect enemy vessels - were "absolutely superb".

Some of the equipment the Royal Navy used was the best in the alliance.

This appreciation has been reflected in a recent enhancement of the role of anti-submarine groups centred on British light aircraft carriers.

On the recommendation of Admiral MacDonald, the Military Committee of Nato has raised the status of these formations to that of Anti-Submarine Warfare Striking



Shannon Khan, aged three, holding a new doll, which has Aboriginal features, at the Tjiti-Witja Kindergarten in Port Augusta, South Australia.

Nigeria exposes secrets of interrogation camps

Lagos (Reuters) - Nigeria's new military rulers have opened to the press the country's most notorious secret police detention centres to show alleged human rights abuses under the ousted government of Major-General Muhammad Buhari.

The Deputy Police Inspector-General - Mr. Muhammad Gambo, said on television that 101 people were being held illegally by the Nigerian Security Organization (NSO) at its interrogation centre in Lagos alone.

Mr Gambo, who took reporters round the NSO's main interrogation centre in the Ikoyi district of Lagos, said some of the detainees had been held for more than 18 months.

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towel round their waist. One had a fractured skull and wounds on his back and buttocks.

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Some of the equipment the Royal Navy used was the best in the alliance.

This appreciation has been reflected in a recent enhancement of the role of anti-submarine groups centred on British light aircraft carriers.

On the recommendation of Admiral MacDonald, the Military Committee of Nato has raised the status of these formations to that of Anti-Submarine Warfare Striking

110 hurt in Indian chlorine gas leak

Bombay (Reuters) - One person was killed and 110 treated in hospital when chlorine gas leaked from a chemical factory here during a demonstration by plant workers, police said.

Chlorine gas escaped while it was being transferred from a 37-tonne capacity tank at the privately owned Calico Mills. The pipe transferring the chlorine suddenly burst while workers were holding a protest meeting at the factory gates over the plant's closures police added. The victims included 14 firemen and 12 policemen sent in to evacuate the plant.

A Bombay police spokesman said the situation was under control after firemen sprayed water onto the leaking pipe to cool it and dilute the chlorine.

Dutch honour Anne Frank

Den Bosch (Reuters) - A square in this southern Dutch town is to be named after Anne Frank, the Jewish girl whose diary gives a moving account of Nazi persecution during the Second World War.

The city fathers decided to name the square after Anne Frank after hearing that the West German town of Bergen turned down a plan to name a street after her. Anne Frank had died at Bergen Belsen concentration camp.

Robbery arrest

Rome (Reuters) - Italian police said they had arrested four more Italians in connection with a bank robbery in Barcelona, Spain, earlier this month, bringing the number of people held to 10. The gang is thought to have netted more than \$5 million worth of cash and valuables.

Liberian pardon

Monrovia (AFP) - Liberia's military leader, Mr Samuel Doe, has granted clemency to two men sentenced earlier this year to at least 10 years each in prison for attempting to assassinate him last November, the Government's press secretary said.

Briton held

Torremolinos (AP) - Spanish police have arrested a Briton in connection with two armed jewel robberies in California, a police spokesman said. Andrew Eggington, aged 42, of Brighton, was arrested on a warrant from California police through Interpol.

Mountain toll

Islamabad (Reuters) - Two British climbers, Michael Harber and Michael Morris, missing in the Karakoram mountain range in northern Pakistan since last month are believed to be dead and a search for them has been abandoned, British Embassy sources here said.

Dhaka dragnet

Dhaka (Reuters) - Special police squads have arrested nearly 3,000 rapists, murderers, prostitutes, thieves and other law-breakers in the past month in a crackdown against rising crime in Bangladesh, police said.

Growing family

Alicante (AP) - A 28-year-old mother of three who had been taking fertility drugs has given birth to sextuplets here. The five girls born to Señora Germaine Ferry Clemente were alive but in serious condition but a boy had died.

Arms cache

Brussels (AFP) - Police have found a second cache of arms apparently hidden by left-wing extremists responsible for 18 bomb attacks in Belgium in the past 11 months, officials of the state prosecutor's office have said.

Kharg hit again

Nicosia (AP) - Iraq said its jets raided Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal to prevent repairs for damage caused in two earlier raids this month. The Iraqi bombers dropped a total of 12 bombs.

Swiss blast

Walsensiedt (Reuters) - A shrapnel mine exploded during preparations for Swiss Army munitions exercises here, killing a Defence Ministry official.

Nato pays tribute to the Royal Navy

From Rodney Cowton, on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Fort Austin, western Atlantic

The Royal Navy's achievements in anti-submarine warfare are being acknowledged in several ways in the big Nato naval exercise, Ocean Safari, which involved more than 200 ships and submarines and is now in progress in the Western Atlantic.

Admiral Wesley McDonald, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic, said that the Soviet Union's submarine threat was the one that most worried him. In the last two decades the West's technological advantage in this field has been reduced by half.

The British hunter-killer submarines and anti-submarine warfare capability were a vital element in anything the alliance did at sea. The Royal Navy's towed array sonars - listening devices which are towed behind ships and submarines to detect enemy vessels - were "absolutely superb".

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Force Atlantic. It will provide the long-range anti-submarine screen for Nato's main battle force.

This reflects the change in Nato tactics away from escorting convoys in time of war and towards actively searching out hostile submarines.

In the present exercise an international group centred on the 20,000-ton HMS Illustrious will sail up to 400 miles ahead of the main force, locating enemy submarines. It will also perform this task when a carrier battle group, led by the US aircraft carrier USS Intrepid, heads up into the Arctic waters of the Norwegian Sea in the middle of next month.

The leading voice of black protest

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The African National Congress (ANC) is considered the leading black political organization in South Africa, but because it is banned and blacks are denied the vote the extent of its support has never been measured.

It was formed in 1912 with the aim of freeing the country from white domination. Over half a century it tried to achieve this by non-violent means. But after the Sharpeville massacre in 1960 the organization decided that non-violence would not work and started an armed struggle.

A military wing, known as Umkhonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) was set up and has been carrying out sporadic attacks against targets in South Africa. The ANC's political and military headquarters are in Lusaka.

In 1955 the ANC adopted the Freedom Charter which calls for all South Africans, black and white, to live together in a unified democratic state. Although predominantly black, the organization has white members and whites in its leadership.

The titular leader of the ANC is Mr Nelson Mandela. While Mr Mandela has been in prison the organization has been led by Mr Oliver Tambo.

Opposition attacks police 'thugs'

A passionate call was made by the leader of South Africa's official white parliamentary Opposition yesterday for government action to find out if black leaders and the security forces "live in the same country or come from different planets".

Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the Progressive Federal Party (PFP), called on party members to expose "thugs, criminals and unmitigated racists" in the army and police.

He was addressing the party's national congress in Durban, the same venue from which President P. W. Botha delivered a speech two weeks ago, televised worldwide, which shattered hopes that the Government was firmly committed to speedy reform of apartheid.

Dr Slabbert, referring specifically to this week's Cape Town riots in which at least 20 people have been killed and hundreds injured, said: "The security forces appear to act on a definition of the township situation which is totally out of touch with the one shared by the inhabitants."

If it continued, he said, each side would increasingly see the other as "the enemy" and the state of emergency, instead of restoring calm, would drift into a period of inconclusive violence.

Dr Slabbert urged Mr Botha to call a meeting between the security forces and extra-parliamentary leaders such as the Right Rev Desmond Tutu, Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, Dr Allan Boesak, the United Democratic Front leader detained under security laws earlier this week, Dr Beyers Naude, head of the South African Council of Churches, and the Most Rev

Denis Hurley, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Durban.

The PFP has 26 seats in the 163-seat white House of Assembly - against the National Party's impregnable 114 - and represents about 18 per cent of the white electorate, but its Durban congress is the first it has held as a multi-racial party since the scrapping earlier this year of the Prohibition of Political Interference Act, which barred racially mixed political parties.

Dr Slabbert yesterday made it clear he is aware that young white radicals in the party believe it should quit the tricameral Parliament altogether and that by accepting blacks, Coloureds and Indians as members - while they cannot vote for the same MPs - it is supporting the system. He said the PFP was participating in the tricameral camera Parliament in order to get rid of it.

"We cannot just rush in as a non-racial party and ignore the feelings of those who have been unable to become members as a result of the repeal of the Political Interference Act," he said. "We have to consult, discuss and plan with them as well."

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Tirana draw

Gerd Muller, one of the greatest forwards since the war with more than 60 goals for West Germany, has joined HJK Helsinki - for the love of a beautiful Albanian. Muller went to Albania for the first time in 1967 to play in an international match in Tirana. There he fell for a girl called Mojna. Four years later chance and football took him back to her but he has never been able to get a visa since. Recently he heard that HJK Helsinki had been drawn in the European Cup Winners' Cup against Flamurtari, winners last season of the Albanian Cup. Although nearing 40 and the end of his professional career, he promptly signed for HJK and, keenly awaits the match in Tirana. What his German wife and children have to say is not known.

● The gentleman who annually records the most popular Christian names in the birth section of *The Times* would be intrigued by the new intake of 16 boys for the Football Association's school at Lilleshall, Shropshire. It includes two Lees, a Wayne, a Darrell and four Jassons.

Rush Mk II

Connoisseurs of forward play who sigh for another Ian Rush can relax - the Liverpool flyer has a brother. Stephan Rush won the first team player of the year award last season at his club - Colwyn Bay. Ian sometimes watches him play in the Northwest Counties League second division. Stephan had a trial with Leeds, and his club secretary, Alan Banks, reckons he could hold his own in the Third or Fourth Division. "He is better than Ian in the air," he said. Winner of the Colwyn Bay reserve team player of the year award was Steve Southall - brother of Everton goalkeeper Neville. Steve, a centre half, eventually despaired of reaching the dizzy heights of the Colwyn Bay first team and has returned this season to his local club, Llandudno.

Catching

The ornithological obsession of cricket commentator Henry Blofeld is so pervasive that it finally slips beneath one's guard. Never mind Blofeld's pigeons: Tim Goodwin, children's author and a good birder, once saw a hobby (a kind of falcon) when actually batting on a ground in Richmond. Can any reader match that, I wonder?

Coral red

Snooker, the game of waistcoats and faces of convict pallor, moves into a new era with the development of an all-weather snooker table with a surface of coated steel. All it needs after a downpour is a quick wipe-down. The manufacturers, Suga-play, are so confident of the table's imperviousness to external conditions that they organized an underwater match between two divers in the swimming pool of a hotel at Hythe, Kent.

● Whitstable Town in the Kent League, were, as already recorded, the first club to suffer from the ban on English participation in European football. Now they have been hit again: safety precautions taken in the wake of the Bradford disaster have caused their main stand to be closed. It has a capacity of 200, and normally holds around 50.

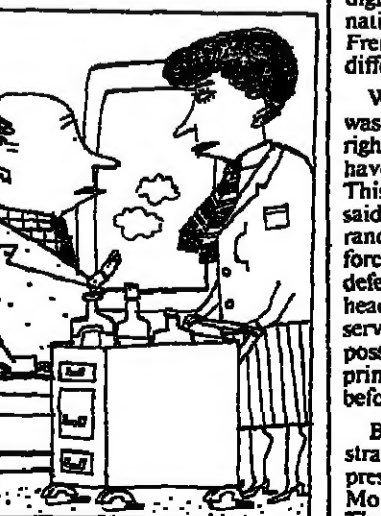
First bounce

The first-ever Rugby Union League match in England will be played at Cockermonth tomorrow. It kicks off the Cockermonth League, which will run in north-west England for an experimental two years. By a quirk of fixture planning, the Cockermonth fixture is being held the weekend before the start of the rest of the rugby season, so the North Area Division 2 match between Cockermonth and Kirby Lonsdale could signal the end of rugby as we know it.

Striking gold

As the International Olympic Committee prepares to go into conclave to decide the site of the 1992 Games, latest soundings indicate that support is currently divided like this: 23 for Barcelona, 18 each for Paris and Birmingham, 10 for Amsterdam and three for the rest. Birmingham rather fancies its chance as a late entry in the contest. Saatchi and Saatchi fancy their own: they are in pole position for the marketing contract if Birmingham it is.

BARRY FANTONI



'Forget the duty free, just give me a copy of the Pratt and Whitney safety report'

How Willis could make his mark

Donald Macintyre on the challenge - and opportunity - facing the TUC general secretary at the Blackpool conference next week

Norman Willis will have the limelight all to himself at the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool next week. By deciding not to speak, Neil Kinnock will be leaving the centre of the stage to Willis as he faces his first congress since taking over as general secretary just under a year ago.

Kinnock's absence from the rostrum does not mean, however, that the congress is unimportant to him. Indeed, Blackpool will be crucial in determining whether the unions and the Labour Party can lay the foundations of an electorally credible accord before the next election.

Willis's first task is to defuse the crisis over the decision by the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers to accept government money for postal ballots, which he sees as a challenge to the authority of the TUC. If a formula can be found for preventing an outright split the congress could have lasting political importance.

Willis has been working behind the scenes on many issues. Three in particular will be of acute interest to Kinnock: trade union law, economic policy and the issue which overshadowed all others at last year's congress and for the following five months, the miners' strike.

Willis's efforts to persuade the NUM to accept a negotiated settlement on the NCB's final terms have not, despite the undertow of criticism from miners' leaders, provoked the hostility from TUC affiliates that some feared. Apart from the NUM's own motion, which seeks only reinstatement of all dismissed miners but reimbursement of all costs to the union from sequestration and receivership, the only two that deal with the issue are from the rail unions. Both are concerned with the highly topical issue of rail contracts to move coal which are now at risk.

Willis will seek to steer the general council away from the NUM's motion, because he and a number of other senior TUC officials believe it would prove a serious embarrassment to Kinnock if it is not defeated before next month's Labour Party conference.

On wages, the TUC secretariat has secured a composite resolution which can be seen as opening the door to a voluntary incomes policy under a future Labour government. A motion from the left-led AUEW Tax expressing support for free collective bargaining has been qualified by an amendment from the Union of Communications Workers (UCW) insisting that this should be 'within the framework of a planned and agreed economic strategy, taking account of the overriding need to create jobs and improve living standards for those most in need.'

The motion is not as sharp on wages as the UCW would have liked. In the pre-congress horse trading it has dropped its explicit demand for job creation to take 'an absolute priority' over other economic and social objectives, including 'resources available for pay rises.' But it will still be enough to allow Willis to give clearer signals that Labour should enter the next election armed with some form of wages accord with the TUC. He will be helped in this by the statement by Ron Todd, the TGWU general secretary, this week that 'even the amount of national income that would go to wages' should be

among the topics for discussion on the party and the TUC.

On trade union law, Willis, with Kinnock's active encouragement, has secured a composite motion which gives the Labour leader the time and opportunity to devise an electorally credible apparatus incorporating the democratic rights afforded individual union members by the 1984 Trade Union Act's provisions on balloting.

Willis knows, however, that his task is not simply to make life easier for Labour; the TUC has to function whatever the outcome of the next election. He said last week 'There are things which need pressing attention now, and if we are simply regarded as a Trojan horse for the Labour Party it might block us from things we might otherwise get. If the TUC makes it clear it is living in the real world, then that's good for the Labour Party too.'

'Living in the real world' is a not unambiguous echo of the 'new realism' endorsed so enthusiastically at the 1983 congress and precipitately abandoned amid the pledges of support for the NUM at Brighton last year.

The miners' strike has not proved as disastrous for the TUC as predicted. Warnings that a defeat for the NUM meant a defeat for the whole trade union movement have proved unfounded. The fall in union membership has slowed and it now stands at 9.7 million. Finally, despite the TUC's failure to settle the miners' strike, it established

Willis as a credible force with the government as he shuttled between the NCB, ministers and the NUM.

But the theme which the TUC almost left behind after the 1983 congress, and which Willis is likely to emphasize again in Blackpool next week, is the need to be truly representative of its rank and file. This, in Willis's view, means reaching over the heads of the activists to the ordinary members beyond. Not only the miners' strike but the surprise result of this week's NUR ballot may help him.

The NUR vote illustrates the contrast between the union's conference policy and the wishes of a majority of its members. But despite complaints that Jimmy Knapp, the NUR general secretary, misjudged his members' mood the fact remains that he it was who boldly persuaded delegates at this year's NUR conference to accept that balloting was here to stay.

Knapp will not go to the rostrum in Blackpool to a hero's welcome as leader of a front-line assault on government policy; but he could still prove a pivotal figure in the changing mood of the TUC.

We have been here before, of course, after the defeat of the 1926 miners' strike the young Walter Citrine, the newly-appointed general secretary, began to lead the TUC's long march back to influence and responsibility. Willis may not have Citrine's clear-sighted organizational brilliance, but his professed belief in the need for the TUC to be truly representative may have found its time. He faces a huge task, but if he can avoid a split over the AUEW, the auspices being better than anyone could have imagined a year ago.

The author is Labour Editor of *The Times*.

As the anniversary of the outbreak of war approaches, Christopher Andrew discloses the intelligence failings that left Britain unprepared to take on Hitler

Into battle without a clue



What is believed to be the first published photograph of 'Quex' Sinclair, interim chief of M16. It was taken in 1917 when he commanded the battle cruiser Renown

At 11.27 am on September 3, 1939, barely 15 minutes after Neville Chamberlain had broadcast Britain's declaration of war, the air raid sirens wailed over London. In the War Office staff filed down to the basement shelter. There they listened apprehensively to a series of muffled explosions which a former military attaché with first-hand experience of air raids during the Spanish Civil War identified alternately as bombs and anti-aircraft fire. When the all-clear sounded, they emerged to discover that there had been no air raid at all, the 'explosions' were simply the noise of slamming doors echoing down the lift shafts.

The farcical start to the war in the bowels of the War Office aptly reflected Whitehall's more general confusion as it tried to make sense of a mass of ill-digested intelligence about Germany's plan of campaign. Its main immediate fear - of a knock-out blow against the capital from the air - was unfounded. Until the summer of 1940 Hitler lacked the means to begin the blitz on London.

The intelligence confusion about German plans dated from the spring of 1938. Admiral Sir Hugh 'Quex' Sinclair, chief of M16 between the wars, reported in May of that year that Hitler was about to launch an immediate attack on Czechoslovakia. In reality he had no plans for an invasion until the following autumn. Chamberlain, however, believed the intelligence reports and warned Hitler not to go ahead.

When Hitler failed to launch an attack he had never planned, the prime minister congratulated both himself and M16. It had been 'a damned close-run thing', he said, adding: 'I cannot doubt in my mind (1) that the German government made all preparations for a coup, (2) that in the end they decided after getting our warnings that the risks were too great.'

This gratifying illusion had an enduring influence on British policy. When the real Czechoslovak crisis came at Munich in September, Chamberlain feared that the blow to Hitler's prestige in the spring might have been too great for him to yield a second time to a British public warning.

Sinclair's intelligence assessments of Nazi Germany are still officially classified on the improbable grounds that even today their revelation would put national security at risk. As a result his name is commonly absent from histories of the period. But it is clear from evidence which has escaped the Whitehall 'wooden' that, thanks to his illusory

reputation as an anti-communist. He believed that after Stalin's purges the Red Army 'could do nothing of real value' and, condemned negotiations with Moscow for an anti-Nazi pact as a new and dangerous form of appeasement. So far as Hitler was concerned, M16 recommended attempts to 'ensure that Germany's style is cramped, but with the minimum of provocation.'

Despite Sinclair's personal prestige, M16 was so poorly funded that until 1939 it was unable even to afford wireless sets for its agents. Partly as a result, the pre-war intelligence on Nazi Germany provided by M16 and other sections of the intelligence community varied from excellent to appalling. Sadly, Whitehall found it impossible to tell the difference.

The Joint Intelligence Committee, still virtually boycotted by the Foreign Office, had barely begun to coordinate intelligence assessment. As Captain (later Admiral) J. H. Godfrey discovered on becoming Director of Naval Intelligence in

January 1939, 'There were so many authentic rumours about Germany's intentions that, whatever happened, someone could say "I told you so".'

Sinclair failed to realize that one of the main sources of what later turned out to be bogus intelligence was his own opposite number in Germany, Admiral Canaris, head of the Abwehr. Whitehall, as Godfrey complained, completely swallowed a series of German intelligence plans. Some had a profound effect on British policy.

In February 1939 false intelligence reports of German preparations for a surprise attack on Holland persuaded the cabinet to recognize a reality it had struggled to evade ever since the First World War: that British security had to be defended on the continent as well as on the high seas, and that continental defence required firm commitments to continental allies. It was ironic that this turning point in British policy was prompted not by the real threat to Czechoslovakia but by bogus intelligence on an illusory threat to Holland.

By Easter 1939 Whitehall was demoralized by the hopeless confusion of its intelligence assessment. As Captain (later Admiral) J. H. Godfrey discovered on becoming Director of Naval Intelligence in

attack on the Home Fleet and a non-existent U-boat menace in the South Atlantic. The Foreign Office, meanwhile, dismissed accurate intelligence on Italian plans to invade Albania.

Sir Alexander Cadogan, the permanent under-secretary, confessed miserably that even when he correctly identified which intelligence reports were accurate 'It just happened that these were correct: we had no means of evaluating their reliability at the time of their receipt.'

Among the intelligence reports which continued to mislead Whitehall during the first year of peace were exaggerated accounts of dissensions within the German high command. On August 28 - only a week before war was declared - Sinclair sent his personal assistant, David Boyle, on the British ambassador's plane to Berlin to make a personal assessment. Boyle returned the following day with an over-optimistic report which helped to persuade Cadogan that the Germans were 'in an awful fix'. Even at midnight on August 31, Cadogan still saw Hitler as 'hesitant and trying all sorts of dodges, including last-minute bluff'. A few hours later, at dawn on September 1, Hitler's troops invaded Poland.

When the war began Sinclair knew that he had not long to live. By the time he died of cancer two months later an astonishing renaissance of the British intelligence community was already under way, led by the code breakers at Bletchley Park. Sinclair himself played a part in that renaissance. In 1937 he had gained permission for a great expansion of British code breaking 'immediately on the outbreak of war'. When war began Alan Turing, Gordon Welchman and other cryptanalysts who were to lead the attack on the German Enigma machine cipher had been recruited. The lack of signals intelligence during the Munich crisis had left Sinclair pessimistic about what Bletchley Park might achieve. He wrote in a moment of depression that it would 'probably prove "useless for the purpose for which it was intended"'. Sinclair died in November 1939, sadly unaware that only six months later Bletchley Park was to begin producing Ultra, the best intelligence in British history.

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The author is Senior Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. His book, *Secret Service: The Making of the British Intelligence Community*, will be published by Heinemann on October 7.

Why we are still someone special

John O'Sullivan

New York
We may still have the firm impression that we are, so to speak, not Germans. But viewed from Washington - let alone from California - these fine distinctions have become almost invisible. British or German peacocks or 'lad-di-dah' Tories, P. Worsthorne or E. P. Thompson, like it or not, we are all 'Europeans' now.

Thus did Timothy Garton Ash add a dispiriting article in a recent *Spectator* on the growing anti-Europeanism of the US foreign policy elite, with a warning to the British not to imagine that the 'special relationship' would afford them relief. Garton Ash is not, of course, alone in holding this dismissive view. It is very much the view of the Foreign Office and the establishment. Rarely can so many important people have been determined to insist on their own importance.

Their conviction seems to be based on one general and two particular notions. The general idea is that relations between states are determined by power and that, since Britain nowadays has little power, then its influence in Washington must be correspondingly diminished. But although interests are the ultimate factor in international politics, they are heavily qualified by sentiment, shared culture, and common ideology. If that were not so, the Dominions would not have declared war on Germany in 1939.

America is a particularly acute example of this because its foreign policy is more influenced than most by general moral arguments and domestic pressure groups. Would Israel receive the support it does if US policy were determined entirely by a cold calculation of American interests which ignored Israel's status as the sole Middle Eastern democracy and the loyalty it inspires among American Jews? When Britain became embroiled in the Falklands war, American sentiments were engaged very quickly on the side of 'the cousins'.

The second general notion is that the US is losing interest in Europe because of its increased trading links with the rising capitalist nations of the 'Pacific rim'. True enough, it has large trade deficits with them, notably with Japan, which is hated for showering the American people with cheap and efficient cars, computers and transistors.

Then it is argued that the 'new men' in American politics are a bunch of rough Californians who lack the old Eastern elite's affection for Europe. But this theory dissolves on closer inspection. Among the 'Californians', for instance, is

George Shultz, born in New York and educated at Princeton in New Jersey and MIT in Massachusetts. George Bush, a Connecticut Texan, went to Yale, as did Edwin Meese, a real Californian. In other words, these men are members of an elite which spans the country. They would not feel uncomfortable in London drawing rooms.

Finally, I hope no one will argue that the US is being driven by European unwillingness to spend more on defence into the arms of Japan, which spends only 1 per cent of its vast gnp for that purpose.

We come, at last, to the main reason given by Garton Ash for believing that Britain is regarded as just another European deadbeat. He has been talking to neo-conservative intellectuals unhappy that the 'lad-di-dah' Tories' and unnamed *Spectator* writers were sceptical about the Soviet threat and of America's efforts to counter it.

If so, their unhappiness is not without cause. There is a section of the Tory party, well represented in the *Spectator*, which regards America as an extension of the lower middle class, to be relied upon and condescended to. 'Making mock of uniforms that guard you while you sleep' will never appeal to the sentry.

But it is a complete misreading of the neo-conservatives' distress to think of it as a careless lack of interest that cannot distinguish between 'British and German peacocks or lad-di-dah Tories'. It is a much more painful and perceptive thing: disappointment in love. It is one thing to be unimpressed for imperialism by a German socialist. They take that in their stride. But when British Tories talk in the same tones, it hurts and surprises. Mrs Thatcher's denunciation of the liberation of Grenada only 16 months after the US had rid its 'Latin American ties to assist Britain over the Falklands still rankles.

The corollary is that a special relationship is available if it is not rejected by British politicians too 'realistic' and/or supercilious for their own good. This possibility is based on shared political values, on the post-war tradition of Anglo-American cooperation, particularly in nuclear and intelligence matters, and finally on the politically important fact that there is a great reservoir of popular support for Britain in America.

If the US really is becoming disillusioned with Europe as a whole, this is the time to remember that we are those peculiar Europeans who speak English.

No unwanted tan in the sepia

Philip Howard

Meanwhile, down in darkest Ayrshire, life goes on untroubled by trendy metropolitan concerns. Up there, for all I know, you are in a fever about government shuffles, or opinion polls, or the state of the pound. Down here we are interested in more enduring truths: who has killed how many birds, scurried local gossip, and the weather. Well, in the country is as good therapy for taking life too earnestly as the slave who rode behind the triumphant hero in his chariot reminding him that he was mortal.

The good news is that the midges are all drowned. But who are these posing roughly for the camera? To what end are they assembled, O mysterious photographer? Photography is the curse of the holiday-making classes. If you want a picture of Ailsa Craig or Goat Fell, why get better ones than you can ever take in the seaside cafes and tobacconists.

You expect a bit of Scotch Mist streaming in from the Atlantic. But this year it has been so thick that we have been reduced to sorting old photographs, and getting rid of the accumulated junk of more than a century of country living.

There is something touching and disturbing about yellowing photographs of the dead and the young. What can they be thinking of when they say that great-aunt Cassie was a ravine beauty? Just look at Reggie in his chaste bathing costume with breastplate and straps. But, most astonishingly, why are they all wearing sunhats and holding parasols on an Ayrshire beach where sun-baths and sun-basking are the normal equipment?

Let us not fall into the old men's delusion that summers were always golden before the war, or before the First World War, or before the Boer War. I am sure that the climate of the Costa Clyde has always been wet and windy. The old snap-shots are a reminder how recent is our religion of sun worship. It is only since the war that we have griled our bodies like rump steaks basted with Ambre Solaire. I suppose the motive is partly vanity, and partly, as with dreadful holiday snaps, to have something to flash around the office to swank about.

You remember in *Troilus and Cressida* how brown faces are reckoned ugly and lower class? 'The Grecian dames are sunburnt and not worth the splinter of a lance.' And Cressida, engaged in one of her rather tiresome exchanges of sexual innuendo with Pandarus: 'My



mask, to defend my beauty.' The mask is a cover to prevent sun-tan; cf. Julia, disguised as a boy, in *Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

But since she did neglect her looking-glass, And threw her sun-expelling mask away, The air hath star'd the roses in her cheeks, And pinch'd the lily-tincture of her face, And now she is become as black as I.

Brown was unfashionable and working-class. Lily faces and rosy cheeks were the things. Shakespeare was writing not about the fashions in Troy in the ninth century BC or in Milan at some vague period in the past, but about early Jacobean England.

Come on nearly three hundred years, and brown is still bad, white good, in the daft rule-book of fashion. George Eliot, cursed with a swarthy complexion as well as a most unsuitably unfeminine mind, was well aware that she would have been considered more beautiful if she could have managed to be whiter. In *The Mill on the Floss* Maggie Tulliver gives three main causes of concern to her family: she is always reading, she shows signs of being an intellectual, and she is untanned. Mrs Tulliver: 'That never run 't my family, thank God, no more nor a brown skin as makes her look like a mulatto.' The fashion for white skin was a class as well as a racial fetish. There are revelling Great War diaries of British officers being astounded by the white skins of their soldiers bathing.

At least this summer neither Aunt Cassie nor Grandmama would have needed their sun-bats. Tough on the baskers, though.

Greenpeace: France sinks its differences

Paris
"My country, right or wrong," ex-president Giscard d'Estaing declared this week to explain his silence on the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior. In so saying, he probably expressed the opinion of the majority of Frenchmen. When the nation's dignity or grandeur is attacked or its national interests threatened, the French close ranks and political differences are forgotten.

When the French secret service was first accused of the sinking, the right-wing opposition appeared to have been given a gift on a plate. This was a mini-Watergate, it was said, which would rock the Mitterrand government, almost certainly forcing the resignation of the defence minister, Charles Hernu, the head of the foreign intelligence service, Admiral Lacoste, and possibly even Laurent Fabius, the prime minister, only a few months before a crucial general election.

But the opposition remained strangely silent and it was left to the press to make the running. Then, on Monday, came the Triton report. The headline in the left-wing *Libération* summed up the general reaction: 'Triton washes whiter than white'. David Lange, the New Zealand prime minister, went

further: it was too transparent to constitute a whitewash, he said. After a 17-day inquiry, Bernard Tricot, former chief of staff to President Giscard and a highly respected member of the Council of State, concluded that neither the French government nor the secret service was involved. His evidence? The word of honour given by ministers and leaders of the secret service, and his belief in the upright characters of the French agents instructed to infiltrate (peacefully) the Greenpeace movement and their inability to disobey orders. No one doubted Tricot's integrity; they just thought he must belong to an earlier, nobler world where lies and dirty tricks had no place.

Alain Madelin, a deputy of the Giscardian Parti Republicain, said Triton must take the French for imbeciles if he thought he could make them believe that highly-trained combat divers were sent to the South Pacific simply to take photographs. But he was one of the few politicians to take such a stand. Most said they had no intention of exploiting an affair in which French national interests were at stake. Like Giscard, they believed France was their country, right or wrong. Even the communists, who were the most critical, limited their

attacks to accusing the government of wanting to cover up the affair and of using it to prepare for an eventual 'cobaltation' between the left and the right after the general election. At no point have they criticized the government for trying to infiltrate the Greenpeace movement, nor have they criticized French nuclear tests. There is an astonishingly wide national consensus in France on the need for an independent nuclear deterrent, and on the need for the continuation of tests to modernize and upgrade that deterrent.

Far from setting the Rainbow Warrior affair, however, the Triton report has raised more questions than it has answered. It also unashamedly confirmed that France was carrying out underwater operations in New Zealand waters without the New Zealand authorities' knowledge. Hardly anyone believes in Tricot's 'certainties' and 'convictions', and even Tricot himself has been backtracking. He now admits that he might have been given fresh impetus to the scandal, the fire seems somehow to have been drawn from the government itself. There is no longer talk of resignations. Indeed, Hernu, has

been put in charge of an investigation into the running of the DGSE, the intelligence service under his responsibility, which the Triton report is said to criticize for 'serious shortcomings'.

Lange's reaction to the affair has been somewhat puzzling. After castigating the Triton report as 'grossly contradictory' and accusing France of having killed the friendship between the two countries, he has suddenly changed tack, describing Fabius's comments earlier this week as 'very conciliatory' and as constructive as was possible.

Yet Fabius had done none of the things that Lange demanded. He did not apologize for carrying out undercover operations in New Zealand, he made it clear that there was no question of France extraditing the three crew members of the *Orvea*, all French agents, for whom New Zealand has issued arrest warrants. Fabius insisted that France would continue to 'defend its interests' in the South Pacific, making clear that this involved a continuation of nuclear tests. And he effectively washed his hands of the affair, saying it was up to New Zealand to find the culprits.

Diana Geddes



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DEMOCRACY UNDER ARREST

Five months ago General Mohammed Zia ul-Haq inaugurated the restoration of democracy in Pakistan. Elections, of a sort, were held, a pliant assembly sworn in and a civilian prime minister appointed. It was to be the end of military rule although most leading politicians were safely in detention or exile, their parties banned, and the country under martial law. Despite those restrictions, the General confidently stated that Benazir Bhutto, the young politician who symbolizes the country's political opposition, would be free to return home and address political rallies or hold press conferences. "This is a free country," he claimed. Last week Miss Bhutto put that boast to the test. She is now under house arrest.

Miss Bhutto had returned for the burial of her brother, Shah Nawaz. In her earlier statements she had maintained that she was back as a sister, not a politician. Indeed this week she even went so far as to publicly disavow any immediate intention of launching a political campaign against the military regime. Instead, she committed her People's Party to biding its time until January in order to give General Zia enough time to live up to his new Prime Minister's promise of lifting martial law this year. On the face of it, from the General's point of view, this was an ideal outcome.

Some of Miss Bhutto's own supporters however disagreed with her decision; they would have preferred to capitalize on present emotion to further their cause.

Yet General Zia realized that Miss Bhutto had made no concessions to him. Instead, she had hit upon his principal weakness. Her willingness to wait until January before launching her own political initiative was simply another way of giving the General sufficient rope to hang himself. For no one in Pakistan believes that he will lift martial law by the end of the year. To do so would not just abolish the authority of the army, but perhaps also put in jeopardy his own position. Not to do so would have worse results: it would finally finish off his pretence at democracy and very possibly also increase Miss Bhutto's own support. For then she could argue that had given the General as much time as he had wanted and yet he had failed to stand by his words. So clearly, by her decision Benazir Bhutto had created an apparently insoluble dilemma for General Zia. The large crowds who have attended on her since her return home simply underline this fact.

By arresting her, however, General Zia has gained nothing and lost a lot. He has shown up both himself and his own civilian placements, who only last week were assuring Miss

Bhutto of her freedom in Pakistan, as either hypocrites or outright liars. More significantly, he has convincingly shown that the country he claimed had been restored to democracy is really still a prisoner in the hands of the military. But, most importantly, all he has also revealed is the fragility of the structures he is seeking to establish. If the general system of government cannot withstand the pressure incurred by allowing Miss Bhutto her liberty, even after she voluntarily decided to lie low for the next four months, then it cannot really claim to either represent the Pakistani people or possess the stability to justify outside support.

Now the benefits of this arrest are bound to accrue to Miss Bhutto. Hereafter she can justifiably claim that the regime is scared of her. In the eyes of the Pakistani people she may even acquire a certain martyrdom in the cause of democracy. Meanwhile, General Zia has still to face his own crisis: the promised lifting of martial law. In addition, he now also has to live with the fact that a 32-year-old woman, still in formal mourning for her brother, has the chance to put his government on the run. Sir Geoffrey Howe might take advantage of the visit to London next week of the Pakistan foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, to mention her name.

HOW GREEN ARE THEIR POLITICS

The Liberal party was the natural receptacle for early greenery in British politics. Any anthology of its tabled conference resolutions would fish up such topics as the low-growth economy and the melting of the polar icecaps. Melting there was to be opposed, even though the consequent inundations as they affected Great Britain would remove from the electoral register mostly Tory voters without encroaching on the Celtic fringes. The Liberals were always the decent party. It is interesting that an article in the current issue of *Crossbow* urging more environmentalism on the Conservative party takes up the icecap challenge.

As the other half of the Alliance, it was up to the SDP to get abreast of its partner while exerting its influence to de-freak any joint presentation of the subject. This is done quite well in its policy paper *Conservation and Change*, out in time for the conference in Torquay next month. It pulls together most environmental issues that are attracting lively pressure-group politics - it is that that gives them a special claim to the attention of parliamentary parties, for where there are pressure groups there are votes.

The paper commits the party on a number of these issues in passing. No major expansion of the existing nuclear generating programme before further research has ensured safe disposal of nuclear waste. That puts a stopper on Sizewell B, (although the British Association was told by the director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment this week that the remaining difficulty about nuclear waste disposal was political not technical). It goes for the extension of planning controls to farm buildings, hedgerow removal and excavations - all buildings presumably, since some are already subject to control, but stopping short of ponds, woods

and major changes of agricultural use. Britain should join the "30 per cent Club" without more ado, that is the group of industrialized nations pledged to reduce sulphur emissions by 30 per cent by 1993, even though it is recognized that "the scientific arguments about the precise reasons for acid rain are not fully resolved".

There is a sound principle of environmentalism, overlooked here, that expensive gestures and heavy impositions ought to be well founded in the science of the subject and not run ahead of the current state of knowledge; otherwise environmentalism might get a bad name.

These and many other particulars apart, two main themes run through the SDP's paper. One theme is the tendency for economic imperatives to clash with what are here called ecological imperatives, growth and change versus conservation. Primacy is awarded to neither. Where there is conflict the matter must be managed so as to issue in something called "green growth", economic growth that is environmentally beneficial. That is a verbally satisfying resolution devoid of specific commitment: good manifesto matter.

The other thematic argument is that since environmental factors enter into a wide range of public policies there should be an overall view taken and a coherent conservation policy developed at the centre of government. That leads the SDP to a department of the environment.

There is one already of course. The SDP would reconstruct it by establishing separately a department on the lines of the old ministry of housing and local government, leaving a Department of Environmental Protection. A minister in the cabinet, an inspectorate and a residual function in town and country planning is not much of a base

from which to "co-ordinate environmental policy throughout Whitehall". Ministries created to co-ordinate the work of others seldom achieve much or last long.

At this stage the proposal should probably be regarded not as the SDP's considered thought about the machinery of government, but as a way of giving conservation a higher profile, not least in the party's own presentation of policy.

The Conservative party too is alive to these issues. In Mr William Waldegrave they have a knowledgeable and effective environment minister, and if there is more pamphleteering than policy at present that could change.

There are many different sorts of issue gathered up in green politics and almost as many different motivations. To disprove of intensive animal husbandry, to care about the feeding grounds of migrant geese, to keep development away from one's salubrious part of the metropolitan green belt, to condemn nuclear power generation, to curse the ploughing of field footpaths, not to wear furs, not to let others hunt foxes, not to like Mr Palumbo, to sail to Murrumbidgee, are not all manifestations of the one type of fervour.

Yet threads run through them. One is aesthetic, the wish to have pleasing surroundings, satisfying to the senses and the intellect. Another is an idea of trusteeship: a sense of responsibility towards the fair world we temporarily command, which the thrust of our ambitions may incidentally poison, or make sterile, or denude of its abundance of living species. These are beneficial attitudes but they are easily overcome by more immediate concerns and more forceful pursuits. It is all to the good to have them articulated at the level of national politics.

STAKHANOV LIVES ON

Both the TUC and Mrs Thatcher will have noted with interest that the dynamic Mr Gorbachev is trying to reinvent the faltering Soviet economy by encouraging a revival of the Stakhanovite movement, the 50th anniversary of which is being celebrated today in the USSR with massive publicity. On the night of August 30 1935, the Donbass miner Aleksei Stakhanov hewed 14 times more coal than the norm, beginning a movement to boost output which rapidly spread to other branches of the economy. Soon there was even a Stakhanovite cobbler and a Stakhanovite milkmaid.

Unfortunately, the spontaneous enthusiasm of the proletariat which flooded Stalin's media was not genuine. The incredible leaps in individual output were achieved by carefully arranging ideal conditions and providing a large auxiliary team which carried out all the mundane backup chores. While the Stakhanovites went on tour, enjoying privileges and exhorting their former comrades to boost production, less fortunate ordinary workers had their norms increased without wage rises in compensation. At the first Stakhanovite conference Stalin warned: "Life has become better, comrades, life has become more joyful,

And when you enjoy living, you work well."

Ungrateful workers resented these labour paragons enough to injure some of them in protest assaults. But Aleksei Stakhanov himself was still making speeches to young miners in the early 1970s, although he was too ill to attend the 40th anniversary celebrations in the Kremlin in 1977. This week Soviet television repeatedly showed archive film of him, while *Pravda* published Mr Gorbachev's greetings to the miners of the Stakhanov Pit, saying that the example of their eponymous hero is as relevant as ever.

In the 1930s managers and trade-union officials, who dared to suggest that a regular production rhythm would raise total output more successfully than artificially arranged record-breaking, disappeared in the purges. As Stalin said: "We had to let these respected people have it ever so gently in the teeth, and politely conduct them from the central apparatus." And *Pravda* thundered that "liquidating sabotage" was essential for the movement to expand fully.

Mr Gorbachev seems unlikely to go to such extremes. However, this week the trade-union newspaper *Trud* praised a young

Donbass miner for producing over 20 times the norm, while Mr Bratchenko, the Coal Minister, revealed in an interview in *Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya* that "unfortunately, even in mechanized seams many auxiliary operations are done manually" and in the most difficult mines technology remained much the same as in the days of Aleksei Stakhanov. Earlier this year 15 Donbass miners were rescued after a roof caved in, trapping them for two days in fear of an explosion from the high methane levels. Accidents with a less happy outcome go unreported in the official press.

Labour productivity in some Siberian mines is four times better than in the dated Donbass pits, many of which would already be closed if the Soviet authorities cared more for miners' welfare and less for increasing total output whatever the cost. This week Aleksei Stakhanov was posthumously honoured with a museum in his native village; meanwhile his sister adds to her meagre pension by sweeping the streets. She too, says *Pravda*, follows the Stakhanovite tradition: a tradition which clearly suits Mr Gorbachev, but is unlikely to go down well at Blackpool.

Regard for safety in the air

From Mr J. Hewish
Sir, The headline of your last leader today, "I'm still safe, fly me" (August 29), is demonstrably untrue, as well as, to my mind, in bad taste. According to your own figure, 1,511 people have suffered painful deaths in air crashes this year.

As one who took part in experimental flying during World War II, I suggest it would be more responsible of the media to remind the public, not of the possible technical fixes available, the panoply of crash-testing, fire-proofing and official bodies monitoring the situation, but of the inherent dangers of flying machines.

A modern jet packs passengers like sardines in a fragile pressure-cooked bath, at altitude, a huge differential in relation to the surrounding atmosphere. It drags this along by means of two or more paraffin-fuelled rockets containing hot metal rotating at high speed, usually in the proximity of fuel tanks and pipelines under pressure. Every gram of excess metal that ensues, factors of safety in other forms of transport has been excluded.

Safer than crossing the road? Sometimes, perhaps. But I suggest that more prominence be given to the nature of the machine and less to the cosmetic statements of the vested interests that mobilize in its defence.

Yours faithfully,
J. HEWISH,
Flat 3,
47 Dartmouth Park Hill, NW5
August 29.

From Professor D. A. Smith
Sir, Michael McNair-Wilson's excellent letter (August 28) rightly places the main burden of improved air safety upon the wings of the world's airline companies. Nevertheless, we might reasonably expect to see more positive leadership from governments in assisting the elimination of fire and explosion hazards from all sources, including transport.

May I add two points: (1) that flame-spread, smoke and toxic gas is not restricted to the covering material of seats; the entire cabin trim needs to benefit from new technology; (2) that in the recent 737 disaster at Manchester Airport, spraying under high pressure of burning aviation fuel on to and into the aft fuselage could possibly have created holocaust conditions so quickly in this particular case, burning cabin trim would not necessarily have contributed significantly to trapping of the victims.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK SMITH, Director,
QMC-Wolfson Fire & Materials Centre,
229 Mile End Road, E1,
August 29.

Neglected composers

From Mr G. Howe
Sir, I greatly respect my colleagues at King's College Hospital, Mr E. R. Howard and Dr D. Green, for their professional expertise, but not for their musical criticism published last Saturday (August 17). The list of composers they suggested - Bax, Britten, Delius, Elgar, Finzi, Foulds, Fricker, Walton - only needs the addition of Stainer, Herbert, Howells, Stanford to empty any concert hall in the land.

Add to that mixture Elliott Carter (as the Proms have done) and you guarantee non-attendance. And yet, if you pop into the programme Guntar Wand conducting Bruckner's Eighth or the Glyndebourne Company doing their *Carmen*, you get the audience bursting at its seams.

Who is right in their assessment of the Proms programme - your own correspondent, Mr Howard and Dr Green, or us abstentionists? Yours sincerely,
G. HOWE,
5 Woodhurst Gardens,
Firs Road,
Kenley,
Surrey,
August 20.

Tribute to designers

From the Director of The Design Council
Sir, Mr James Pilditch's letter (August 28) draws attention to the award made in Washington last week to the British Government at the biennial International Design Congress, for exceptional achievement in promoting design.

It was indeed a famous victory, and Mr John Butcher, the minister who received the award on behalf of the Government, was given a hero's welcome.

For the occasion an audio-visual display had been put together, incorporating a specially recorded message from Mrs Thatcher, of some of Britain's design successes. Among these we showed the Rolls-

Putting jobs debate in perspective

From Mr Bernard Kilroy
Sir, Your feature, "The jobs debt we can afford" (August 1) may help rehabilitate the case for public spending now.

But your editorials also need to distance themselves from considering the public sector borrowing requirement almost entirely in terms of profligacy versus prudence - the stance you adopted most recently on July 13 about Roy Hattersley's welcome re-think of PSBR criteria, which was, by contrast, analysed so constructively by the *Financial Times* editorial on the same day.

Three crucial debates are hopelessly distorted otherwise:
1. Tax cuts v. spending. These are not stark alternatives. Even throughout the 1970s the public sector current account was in balance; for that long, borrowing has related entirely to capital investment. Successive governments would have had clear scope for tax cuts as well as more investment, if only the public investment borrowing requirement had been identified and accounted

against future income, after discounting for inflation (by indexation of debt interest and asset values).
2. The crumbling infrastructure. Even during the 1970s total public spending on capital account was declining very near a level which was sufficient merely to offset the rate at which existing public assets were wearing out, with relatively little net asset creation.
3. Managerial effectiveness. More appropriate accounting could relate public investment management to a realistic rate of return. Without it, the myth grows that effectiveness can only be achieved by the "challenge" of privatisation, as your editorial on public utilities of July 20 suggests. Meanwhile, many activities have not been or cannot be privatised and the field is left clear for politicised interference, which only invites defence mechanisms of a piecemeal kind.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KILROY,
51 Buckingham Court,
Kensington Park Road, W11.

Accuracy in athletics

From the General Secretary of the International Amateur Athletic Federation

Sir, Mr Sargeant, in his seemingly logical letter (August 9), argues that track measurements cannot be as critical as electrical timekeeping. He suggests, therefore, that track performances to be considered for ratification must improve the existing world record by at least 0.1 per cent.

Official IAAF world records for men and women can be set in 50 track events (compare 13 field events) plus heptathlon and decathlon. From 1986 to the present day, the world governing body has ratified as many as 88 track records set up in 23 different countries, and in order to establish authenticity great care is exercised to check every aspect of the performance before its final acceptance.

From this experience the following observations may be made, which I hope will convince Mr Sargeant and other possible sceptics that fairness to the athletes is the underlying principle behind the ratification process and that it is not, in fact, necessary to adopt Mr Sargeant's suggestion to ensure this:

1. International tracks may never measure less than 400 metres.
2. It is quite normal for three separate track measurements to give the same results to within 5cm and common practice is to mark the track 3-5cm too long to ensure it never measures less than the statutory 400 metres.
3. Official surveyors must

accompany each world record application with a confirmation of the track record.

4. In the course of any race run round a bend, it is just not possible for an athlete to keep exactly to the minimum running line. Indeed, in races not run in lanes, particularly with a large field, good tactics may require an athlete to run very wide round a bend to keep out of trouble and this can, over the total race, add metres rather than centimetres to the distance run.

5. In a major competition electrical timekeeping is used and times are recorded to 100th of a second for all distances up to and including 10,000m. We must, for this argument, assume the accuracy of timing systems used at top level meetings, although it has been shown by leading British time-keepers that very few automatic electrical time-keeping systems are absolutely accurate to within 100th of a second over a period of 27min, 13.81sec, the current 10,000m world record.

6. Calling it may be to lose a precious record by 100th of a second, but any athlete in this position will almost certainly accept this - albeit ruefully perhaps - as being the rule of the game; a game moreover whose judging standards are the fairest and most objective of all sports.

Yours, etc.,
JOHN B. HOLT, General Secretary,
International Amateur Athletic Federation,
3 Hans Crescent,
Knightsbridge, SW1,
August 21.

Too many prisoners

From the Director of Nacro

Sir, Alastair Papps (August 26) rightly points out that prison sentences in the United Kingdom are longer than in most other West European countries, and that this makes an important contribution to our high prison population.

However, the figures released last week by Nacro (National Association of Offenders), to which Mr Papps referred, compare the number of offenders sent to prison in Council of Europe countries during 1982 (not as he implies, the average number in prison at any one time). In that year the UK sent more people to prison, both in absolute numbers and relative to its population, than any other West European country with a population of 10 million or more: the Netherlands included.

A reduction in the number of prison sentences could therefore play a significant part in reducing the prison population, together with a reduction in some sentence lengths and in the time spent by remand prisoners awaiting trial.

Yours faithfully,
VIVIAN STERN, Director,
National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders,
168 Clapham Road, SW9,
August 27.

Technical hitch

From the Reverend Arthur Moss

Sir, Peter Gass (August 27) is right enough in noting a decline in the number of hitch-hikers on offer but I suspect there has been some increasing lack of cooperation on the part of the motorists.

Gone are the days when a grateful young National Serviceman was helped back to his bereft family and the welcoming light in the window.

To transport such a one was an undiluted joy and even gave one a feeling of virtue, but all turns to irritation these days when one learns that behind every slim ankle lurks another and heavier one plus a hundredweight or so of camping gear pushed into the hedge.

The persistent smoker and compulsive missionary (religious or political) also try the patience of many.

Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR MOSS,
1 Withfield Drive,
Cannington,
Bridgwater,
Somerset,
August 27.

Moral absolutism

From Lord Howe

Sir, Paul Johnson's beguiling defence of moral absolutism (feature, August 22) relies, sadly for him, on the force of the emotional decoy.

You do not have to be an absolutist to take issue with the Mary Warnock's of this world, nor, by being a relativist, need you lose sight of Christian principles. However, those principles, reinforced as they may be by divine commandments, look for their validity to human suffering and human joy: divorced from such yardsticks, moral prohibitions become mere labours.

For most of us there is a difference between right and wrong, but this difference, as Bertrand Russell once reminded us, is not created by divine fiat. If it were, there would be no difference between right and wrong for God himself, whom Christians look upon as inherently good.

Does anybody think that peace would be achieved by a course of action which can only fuel the ambitions of the republicans and increase the fears of the loyalists that they are about to be sold down the Liffey?

I am not ashamed to be a Unionist. I can see nothing wrong in giving support as I can to the people who for over 60 years have been an integral part of this kingdom and wish to remain so.

It is ironic that Mr Parris uses the island of Cyprus as a parallel to Northern Ireland. He would do well to remember that there were two peoples in different traditions and religions the ultimate solution was the only one properly available, i.e., partition.

Yours faithfully,
BARRY PORTER,
House of Commons.



AUGUST 31 1814

The victory of General Wolfe at Quebec in 1759 was followed by the Treaty of Paris, 1763 ceding "Canada with all its dependencies" to Britain. Twenty years later the Second Treaty of Paris defined the frontier between that country and the United States. America feared that the British in Canada were stirring up the Indians against them and in June 1812 Congress declared war and embarked on the conquest of Canada. Both sides had victories and defeats and a stalemate compelled them to end the war by the Treaty of Ghent on December 21 1814.

AMERICA AND CANADA AT WAR

FORT ERIE CAPTURED - GENERAL ORDERS

Adjutant General's Office, Left Division, July 2
Major-General Brown has the satisfaction to announce to the troops of his division on this frontier that he is authorised by the orders of his Government, to put them in motion against the enemy.

Upon entering Canada, many in arms will govern, not found in arms, or otherwise engaged in the service of the enemy, will be treated as enemies; those who behave unnecessarily and follow their private occupations will be treated as friends. Private property in all cases will be held sacred; public property, wherever found, will be seized and disposed of, by the commanding General. Our utmost protection will be given to all who actually join, or who wish to do so to join our ranks.

Plundering is prohibited. The Major-General does not apprehend any difficulty on this account with the regular army, or with the honourable volunteers, who press to the standard of their country, to avenge her wrongs, and to gain a name in arms. Profligate men who follow the army for plunder, must not expect that they will escape the vengeance of the gallant spirits who are struggling to maintain the national character. Any plunderer shall be punished with death who may be found violating this order.

By order of the Major-General,
C. K. GARDNER, Adjutant-General.

In pursuance of the above orders, the army passed the Niagara river on Sunday morning last. The brigade of General Scott, and the artillery corps of Major Hindman, landed nearly a mile below Fort Erie, between two and three o'clock, while General Ridley, with his brigade, made the shore about the same distance above. The enemy was perfectly unprepared for these movements. General Scott led the van, and was on shore before the enemy's picket, which was stationed at this point, fired a gun-the guard discharged their guns, and retreated.

In the morning a small Indian corps was crossed over. The fort was approached on the right and left, and the Indians skirted the woods in the rear. General Brown now demanded a surrender of the position, and gave the Commander (two hours for consideration. In the mean time, a battery of long 18's was planted in a position which commanded the fort. The enemy, surrendered prisoners of war-marched out of the fort at six, slacked their arms, and were immediately sent across the river to the American shore-there were upwards of 170 prisoners, of the 8th and 100th regiments, among whom were 7 officers. Major Burke commanded the fort.

There is a report of General Brown having again attacked the enemy near Chippewa, on the 6th, the next day after his victory, and taken and killed the residue of the British forces, amounting to about 200 men. This report, it is said, is unauthenticated, when the *Fulton* left the place. (*New York Gazette*.)

Extract of a letter from a very intelligent Gentleman at Niagara, dated Saturday, 27th July.
"The fleet is nearly ready for sea, and I presume, will sail some time in this month. The *Mohawk* will mount 42 guns, and, if they choose, mount 56. Our force in the vessels of the following vessels - *Mohawk*, General Pike, Madison, Jefferson, Sylph, Onida, Lady of the Lake, The *Solomon Tomkins*, *Conquest*, *Ontario*, *Fort*, etc.; are to be used as bomb vessels, transports, etc.; and we have not yet any Commanders appointed to them. I have very serious doubts whether the two fleets will meet on the Lake this season. Reports are creeping into circulation that an attack will be made on Kingston, the movement of the army appear intended to do away all such suspicions. I should not, however, be surprised if such an expedition should take place, as I think these movements look more like finessing than anything else."

Good and evil are often matters of degree, not because we are sloppy about important moral principles, but because ethical conflicts can be agonisingly difficult. Menzies's experiments were repugnant, but this is not to say that people cannot disagree about ends justifying means or about justice. It is, for example, precisely because of a reverence for human life that many people abhor capital punishment.

By all means let us align ourselves with Mr Johnson in reasserting Christian priorities and deterring murder and wanton tortions, but let us be clearer about why we are doing it.

Yours faithfully,
HOWE,
House of Lords.

Glories recalled

From Mr D. Forbes Mackintosh

Sir, In today's issue of *The Times* (August 28) Sir Robin MacLellan asks for "retrospective" names for new houses.

When I left Loreto in 1960 I was greatly tempted to call my new house in Gullane Duncannan.

Yours, etc.
D. FORBES MACKINTOSH,
Bowling Green Cottage,
Broadwell,
Nr Lechlade,
Gloucestershire.

From Mrs Audrey Patchett, JP
Sir, Some years ago, when we were living in the Lake District, the small redundant police station in our village was converted to a dwelling house. We hoped an imaginative owner might call it "Fair Copse".

Sadly, it became a prosaic "Forest View".

Yours faithfully,
AUDREY PATCHETT,
6 Brynag Close,
Cyn Coch,
Cardiff.

COURT AND SOCIAL

SOCIAL NEWS

The Duke of Gloucester, president, National Association of Boys' Clubs, will launch Club week at the Festival Hall and will later attend a gala diamond jubilee celebration at Queen Elizabeth Hall, on October 23.

The Duke of Gloucester, president, National Association of Boys' Clubs, will visit clubs in Hampshire on October 21.

The Duke of Gloucester will present the Evin Health Awards at a luncheon at the Dorchester hotel, on October 22.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit Manchester on October 22 to open the new premises of the Cripples Help Society and later, as president, will visit the Princess Christian College.

The Duke of Gloucester, president, Christ's Hospital, will attend a ceremony to mark the merging of Christ's Hospital Girls' School with Christ's Hospital Boys' School at Horsham, West Sussex on October 23.

Birthdays

TODAY: Judge Argyle, QC, 70; Mr Roy Castle, 53; Sir James Cresswell, 64; Lieutenant-General Sir Roger Cookenden, 70; Judge Alan de Piro, QC, 66; Air Marshal Sir Edward Gordon Jones, 67; Mr Larry Grayson, 55; Miss N. M. Hickey, 61; Mr Alan Jay, 67; Mr Clive Lloyd, 41; Professor Sir Bernard Lovell, 72; Mr Bryan Organ, 50; Mr Itzhak Perlman, 40; Mr Justice Sheen, 67.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. W. Blackburn and Miss P. J. S. Summerhayes. The forthcoming marriage is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs G. R. Blackburn, of 26 Pearl Court, Eastbourne, Sussex, and Paula, daughter of Dr and Mrs J. L. V. Summerhayes, of The Spinney, Heath Rise, Camberley, Surrey.

Mr R. J. S. Blower and Miss S. T. Wagner. The engagement is announced between Benjamin, son of Mr and Mrs B. Blower, of North Cove Hall, Bexley, Suffolk, and Tess, daughter of the late Peter Wagner and Mrs P. Wagner, of Toot Farm, Icklingfield, West Sussex.

Mr T. Criley and Miss C. Hershman. The engagement is announced between Theodore, elder son of Mr and Mrs Donald Criley, of Carmel, California, and Candia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Hershman, of Pebble Beach, California, and George Street, London, W1.

Mr T. C. Dodds and Miss K. A. R. Johnson. The engagement is announced between Thomas Carter (Dodie) Dodds, of Dulwich, and Kathleen Johnson, of Haywards Heath.

Mr R. F. Hayes and Miss S. N. Nichol. The engagement is announced between Richard Fairfield, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jack Hayes, of South Croydon, and Sandy, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Nichol, of Haydock.

Mr R. S. Hawes and Miss N. Wellesley. The engagement is announced between Richard Sidney, only son of Mr and Mrs Hawes, of Cirencester, and Nesta, eldest daughter of the late Mr R. Wellesley, of Buckland, and of Mrs R. Wellesley.

The marriage will take place quietly at St Peter's Church, Manningford Bruce on September 5, 1985.

Flight-Lieutenant M. J. M. Jenkins and Dr T. J. Craven. The engagement is announced between Michael, youngest son of Major and Mrs Lionel Jenkins, of Caversham, Berkshire, and Tessa Jane, daughter of Wing Commander and Mrs John Craven, of Whitley, York.

Mr A. B. Jones and Miss C. M. Stewart. The engagement is announced between Allan, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. Jones, of Pontypridd, Mid-Glamorgan, and Caroline Mary, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs K. D. Stewart, of Sandford, Northants, Oxfordshire.

Mr M. Nakai and Miss J. O'Connor. The engagement is announced between Minoru, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E. Nakai, of Tokyo, and Jennifer, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs M. S. O'Connor, of 2 Richmond Close, Epsom, Surrey.

Dr A. J. Naughton and Miss A. J. Hartley. The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Dr and Mrs W. J. Naughton, of Norwich, Norfolk, and Amanda, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. Hartley, of Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

Mr M. K. Payne and Miss C. A. Lloyd-Edwards. The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs Eric Payne, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Ceri Anne, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Adrian Lloyd-Edwards, of Middletown, Stoke Fleming, Devon.

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Marriages

Mr R. K. Campbell and Mrs S. C. King. A service of blessing was held at St Peter's Church, Woodmansterne, Surrey after the marriage on August 30 between Mr Robin Kenneth Campbell and Mrs Susan Caroline King.

The honeymoon is being spent in Egypt.

Mr D. P. Griffiths and Miss S. J. Hussey. The marriage took place on Saturday, August 24, at the Church of St Nicholas, Edmondsham, Dorset, of Mr David Philip Griffiths and Miss Sarah Jacqueline Hussey.

Mr F. Menotti and Mrs M. Murphy. The marriage took place on August 24 at Yester Church, Gifford, East Lothian, of Mr Carlo Menotti and Mrs Mary Phelan, and Miss Malinda Murphy, daughter of Dr James S. Murphy and Mrs Nelson A. Murphy, of the Rev John Wilson officiated.

The bride who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Mark Rockleider, was attended by Mrs James B. Murphy, Sir Humphrey Wakefield was best man.

Afterwards a luncheon, followed by a concert, was held at Yester House.

Mr A. S. M. Marshall and Miss C. M. Smees. The marriage took place on August 14 in Kuwait between Mr Arthur Marshall, Charge d'Affaires at, of Mr David Marshall, Kuwait, and Mrs Cheryl Smees, of Madras.

Mr S. N. Wilson and Miss E. A. W. Waddell. The marriage took place on August 24 at New Kilpatrick Church, Bearsden, Glasgow, of Mr Steven Wilson, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ernest Wilson, Belton, Norfolk, and Miss Elizabeth-Anne Waddell, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Waddell, Bearsden, Glasgow. The Rev James Hay Hamilton and the Rev Alastair H. Symington officiated.

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Asking the right questions of Christ

Derek Stanesby

In St Matthew Chapter 14 we have not one unlikely story but two. Five thousand people are fed and their appetites satisfied on five loaves and two fish; and as if that is not enough, there is a mini-mountain of food left over. The other tale looks even more absurd: a man walking on water. Peter nearly drowns, but it is only his lack of faith that prevents him from performing the same trick.

What are we to make of this sort of story, and what is its relevance to us as we grope our way through the second half of the twentieth century?

In the first place, the Gospels should not be read as if they were eye-witness accounts describing precisely what went on where Jesus was concerned, as if they had been recorded on film. They are to be interpreted not as crude descriptions, but with imaginative insight. That is rather like the difference between a painting and a photograph. The artist, with his brush, can help us to see things afresh; he can make profound revelations on his canvas.

Thus, St Matthew's Gospel is not so much a photographic record as an artist's impression designed to help us to see. The questions we ask are not "What actually happened?" but "What is the author of this gospel trying to tell us? What can we learn from him about the nature of God and our relationship with him?"

Jesus has been seen as a serene, untroubled, holy man who sailed

effortlessly through life - the Son of God. That is a false and misleading picture. It is only when we begin to understand Christ's humanity that we begin to understand his divinity and catch a glimpse of what God is like.

He goes in a boat to a remote place. But he was a marked man, a public figure with a reputation. They discovered where he had gone, and they ferreted him out. Then the crowd came. Would he do this for them? Would he do that? This man is terribly ill; this woman has a problem. He did his best; he displayed human compassion; he gave what he could. God knows it was not sufficient. But in that display of humanity we catch a glimpse of God's compassion.

All day they clamoured after him and pestered him. Night was drawing on. This time it was hunger he satisfied. But what actually happened? How did the loaves and fishes multiply?

That is a fruitless and misleading approach. The art lies in asking the right questions. Nobody knows what happened. Even if we had a photographic description we would be none the wiser. It is not descriptions that the Gospels offer, but explanations. Matthew is telling us that common human hunger, physical and spiritual hunger, is something which God is deeply involved. Here is another glimpse of the nature of God.

And then? Jesus packed the disciples off in a boat to the other side of the lake. Again he wanted to be alone up in the hills, to breathe deeply and recollect his resources. A storm arose, and now it was naked human fear that confronted the disciples. Anyone familiar with the sea knows fear. The relentless power of wind and wave command awe and respect from the most intrepid.

Did Jesus walk on the water? Did Peter follow suit? This is not what Matthew is trying to tell us. Even if a man could walk across the Atlantic in a gale it would tell us nothing about God and our relationship with him. What Matthew is telling us is that these brave and hardy men were afraid, and that human fear is something in which God is involved. Here we have another glimpse at the nature of God.

Sickness, hunger and fear are part of the human condition. We all experience them at one time or another. The tragedy of cancer, the hunger of the refugee, our own deep and disturbing inner fears. God is irrelevant if he does not touch us in these conditions. Matthew reminds us that we come close to the heart of God at these points.

How do we know that it is God who confronts us at these times of crisis? Is our hunger of body and spirit, our sickness of mind and body, in our deep and disturbing fears? There the people who were healed, the crowd who were fed, the disciples who were afraid, aware of the presence of God? We do not know. Some discerned the hand of God at work, some did not. But the writer of St Matthew's Gospel knew. And that is why he relates these events.

Those who deduce the divinity of Jesus from the performance of miracles are talking nonsense. And those who dismiss the Gospel because of the unlikelihood of the miraculous are equally mistaken. Jesus wanted to be alone - how many times do we read that in the Gospels? He did not go to that lonely place in order to perform a great miracle that would be so impressive that parents would tell their children. Jesus did not glide over the water and still the storm in order to impress on his disciples that he was a man of divine powers. It is almost as if it were against his will that he got mixed up with the hungry crowd and the storm.

That is what Matthew is telling us. God does not force himself on us. We have to discern him. We do not discern him in the improbable, the extraordinary; we discover him in the ordinary, the commonplace, the everyday affairs and experiences of men. That is what the Incarnation is about.

Christ is not hiding, he is easy to find. We can discover him where there is hunger, where there is sickness, where there is fear - three of the pictures Matthew paints for us in this brief, but profound passage. He paints the pictures; it is for us to discern their meaning with our God-given imagination. We begin to do this by asking the right questions.

Dr Stanesby is Rector of St Chad's, Manchester

OBITUARY

MAXWELL SHAW

Leading roles in Theatre Workshop

Maxwell Shaw, actor, director and drama teacher, has died in London, aged 56. Born in Holborn on February 21, 1929, son of a French-born Jewish father with the surname Jacques, young Maxwell spent two years as an art student and as a member of a Jewish amateur dramatic society before switching to the theatre.

He spent five years as a travelling actor and later was a director in repertory. In 1953 he went to Stratford-upon-Avon to audition with Joan Littlewood, who had taken her Theatre Workshop players to the Theatre Royal there. He was engaged on the spot.

Within two years he was playing leads with the company, not only in London but also at the Paris Festival. In 1955 he and the company earned rave notices for their performance of *Volpone*, in which he played Mosca, and for *Arden of Feversham*, in which he played the title role, as well as in *Schwann's* the following year.

He created the part of Dunlavin (doubled with the role of Chief Warden) in Miss Littlewood's historic production of *Brendan Behan's The Quare Fellow*, though he did not join the company in Behan's *The Hostage* until after it had moved in 1960 from the West End to New York.

In New York he met and married Rose Tobias Shaw - a budding actor he had taken the name Shaw in place of Jacques in an argument with an agent - and both moved to London where his wife became a casting agent for television.

Among his major roles on television was that of Uriah Heep in a BBC version of *David Copperfield*. Though he had already directed *An Italian Straw Hat* for the Workshop in 1955, he came into his own as a director in the 1970s. In 1973, after the death of the company's manager and Miss Littlewood's departure from the scene, he joined the "steering committee" and later became manager of the theatre in which he had made his reputation.

It was to prove an uphill struggle which lasted three years until he devoted himself exclusively to his job at the Rose Bruford College of Speech and Drama, where he had joined as principal lecturer and head of acting and drama in 1974.

As an actor Shaw quickly adopted the intellectual methods used by Miss Littlewood. He was an intellectual himself, and becoming a teacher was a natural step to take at the height of his acting career.

A person of great charm, he was widely respected, as much for the energy he commanded as for an actor, in spite of an obvious outward frailty, as for his personal elegance and his self-effacement.

DR L. HARRISON

Dr Lloyd Harrison, a former chief executive of the Greater Nottingham Co-operative Society, who died on August 23, aged 74, was instrumental in developing the drive towards regional co-operative societies in the United Kingdom.

He was co-author, with John Roper MP, of the influential Fabian pamphlet "Towards Regional Co-operatives". Two years before his retirement from the Co-operative movement he joined the council of the University of Nottingham, and went on to become its vice-president and chairman of the estates and building committee. In 1983 the university conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

In him the Ruskin and Robert Owen ideals of the marriage of craft and culture found full expression. Loyalty was the touchstone of his life, loyalty to an ideal, to his friends, to Co-operative enterprise, whether it was in business or university affairs.

He leaves a widow, Mabel.

SIR W. BUNBURY

Sir William Napier Bunbury, 12th baronet, died on August 28 at the age of 70.

The son of Sir Charles Bunbury, 11th baronet, John William Napier Bunbury was born on July 3, 1915 and educated at Eton and Jesus College, Cambridge.

He served in the Second World War in the King's Royal Rifle Corps reaching the rank of captain. He was High Sheriff of Suffolk in 1972.

He married in 1940 Pamela, elder daughter of T. Sutton. They had four sons. The eldest died as the result of a car accident in 1964 and he is succeeded by the eldest surviving son Mr Michael William Bunbury.

Mrs Leon Goossens, wife of Mr Leon Goossens, the distinguished oboist and conductor, died on August 25. She was Leslie, daughter of Brigadier A. Burrows, and she married Mr Goossens as his second wife in 1933.

M. Adolphe Demere de Lespaul, chairman and chief executive officer of the international Petrofina Group, died on August 25 in Brussels.

Mr David Eaton, managing director of Alfred McAlpine International Ltd, has died at the age of 52.

Sun shines for the Oban pipers

From Angus Nicol

After months of weather appalling even by Argyle's standards, a warm yellow disc appeared in the sky, dispelling for a day the monsoon-like rain. Instead of the sodden misery it might have been, the day of the Oban Games yesterday was a real place of summer, which brought out the best in the pipers who compete whatever the weather.

Fresh from his triumph on Wednesday, when he won the Highland Society of London's Gold Medal, Robert Wallace took first prize in the March Strathspey and Reel for previous winners of the cool bag events.

The winner of the March competition was Pipers Alastair Gillies, Queen's Own Highlanders. He also won the Strathspey and Reel competition.

Both competitions for local pipers were won by N. R. MacNaughton from Campbelltown.

The Royal Celtic Society's special prize for the best all-round performance in cool bag and cool bag was won by Donald MacPherson, who was also the winner of Wednesday's Senior Piobaireachd competition. He took second place in the March, Strathspey and Reel Event.

Judges were: March, Strathspey and Reel: John Burgess, Ronald Lawrie and Robert Hardie, March: Pipers Major Ronald MacCallum, Dr Leslie Craig and Captain Alastair Pitkeathly, Strathspey and Reel: Captain Iain Cameron, William MacDonald and Pipers Major Evan MacRae.

Top US award for BBC programme

The BBC television programme *Mind of a Murderer* has won a National Emmy award in the United States in the "outstanding information: cultural or historical programming" category.

The programme was a co-production between the BBC's science series *Horizon* and WGBH Boston's *Frontline*.

New dispute over statue

Plans to make Edinburgh the final resting place of the controversial statue of "Christ and the sinner", carved by a convicted murderer, Hugh Collis, in Barlinnie prison, special unit, have been threatened by a dispute over the work's ownership.

The statue was originally commissioned by St Columba's, the Gaelic church in Glasgow's St Vincent Street, but when it was nearing completion the Kirk session refused to accept the work, claiming that they had not been consulted.

The statue was released from Barlinnie earlier this month into the control of the sculptor's brother, Mr Betty Kerr, and the Rev Donald MacDonald, the minister at St Columba's, who came close to resigning when his church rejected it.

As the work was being transported from the prison to the home of Mrs Kay Carmichael, a journalist, in Glasgow's West End it broke in two on the M8 motorway. When the 2½ ton statue was taken to the haulage contractors yard on Clyde-side the figure of Christ was found to be suffering from two broken legs and a fractured arm.

It has been restored by Pritchards of Glasgow, using plaster and epoxy resin.

At a press conference yesterday in the premises of the contractors, where the work is still stored, Mr MacDonald said: "We have found a permanent place for it in Edinburgh outside new galleries which Mr Richard Demaree is opening."

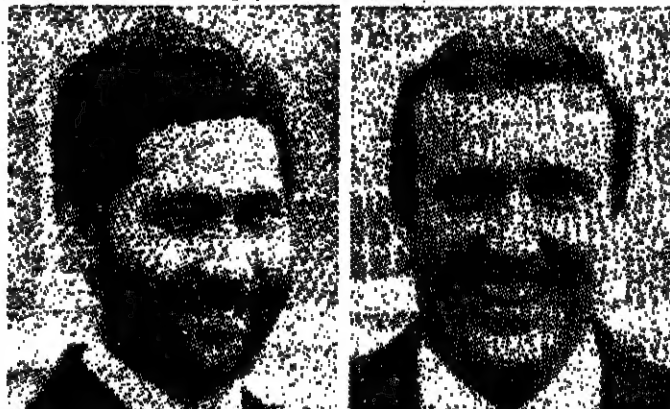
Yesterday's announcement brought an immediate response from Lanarkshire businessman Jim Duffy and Donald Kerr.

Mr Duffy alleged: "The statue belongs to us," and said a deposit had been paid.

"I don't know what the various parties who seem to be claiming ownership are up to but we have instructed our solicitor to take the necessary action in the Court of Session to protect our legal position, next week."



A detail of the statue of Christ



The Queen's Commendation for Bravery was presented yesterday to three Bristol policemen who tackled armed criminals. Constable William Burns, photographed above with his wife, Margaret, was shot in the mouth as he and Constable Owen Lelen (bottom left) tried to capture an escaping bank raider. Detective Constable Roger Summerhayes (right) dived from his motor-cycle to disarm a gunman who was threatening a colleague.

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

Sheer bliss in the shade of the palms

Ten years after singing its praises, Tony Rocca revisits Gomera in the Canary Islands, and finds that its charms remain unspoilt

It is a common dilemma among travellers: having found an unspoilt haven, should they trumpet the discovery and thereby stimulate tourism and, in so doing, hasten the destruction of all that is attractive about it? Or should they keep quiet, lock it away and save it for their own selfish ends?

Ten years ago I cast caution to the wind and wrote about an island, almost circular in shape, purple and green in colour, where wine cost less than water and the warmth of spring lasts for 12 months of the year. I was certainly not the first to discover Gomera: the Romans knew it and its neighbours as the Fortunate Islands, for their natural beauty, mild climate and close proximity to the west coast of Africa. Columbus took on supplies there; it was the last piece of Old World he set foot on when heading off in search of the New.

Silence broken only by the hum of a dragonfly

But I had the distinctly uneasy feeling that I was doing the island and my friends there no favours by singing its praises. It was, I reported, "one of the forgotten islands of the Canaries, with its beaches of black volcanic sand, its subtropical vegetation, its gin at less than £1 a bottle and freedom from the pre-packaged instantaneities."

Times change. Gin now costs £4 a bottle and a more rational relationship has been established between water and wine. More significantly, a new airport has opened at Tenerife's southern tip, bringing Gomera within camera-shot on landing.

There are tarred roads and telephones and mains electricity - luxuries for many in 1975 - nearly everywhere, yet still the dreaded legions have not advanced. Miraculously in an archipelago that long ago submitted to indiscriminate rape by "developers", Gomera's virginity remains more or less intact despite the coachloads of day-trippers who make the crossing to observe this phenomenon.

Yet how far can they go along the road to my favourite corner before it is time to turn the bus round and head for the last ferry? Further than in 1975, when the switchback took nerves of steel and a good three hours. Now a new highway leads to the Valle Gran Rey less spectacularly across the series of volcanic peaks which make up the island.

But down in my Valle, all that silts are the geckos on the whitewashed village houses and the occasional car struggling uphill with an arm of green bananas on its back. There is

silence in the brilliant sunshine, broken only by the buzz of bees or hum of a scudding dragonfly. From its broad mouth where the Atlantic breaks ashore, to its neck in the hills where the twist of tarmac ties it umbilically to the world outside, the valley remains a botanical treasure house, penetrated only occasionally by foreign (mainly German) visitors. I need not have worried.

Triumphal arches of palm and banana fronds still soar overhead, throwing plunging shadows in your path. Oleanders and poinsettias grow in trees here, eclipsed only by the primary beauty of bougainvillea and scarlet hibiscus that shoot across your vision like rockets on fireworks night.

Tread softly in the Valley of the Great King, lest you disturb the ghosts of this magic kingdom: the lost world of the Guanche, Indian monarch, Amaluhue. According to local legend, he was a struggling among the original inhabitants of the lost Atlantis, and the

story of the conquest of Gomera in the name of the Spanish crown is one of bloodshed and cruelty.

All that remains today as a reminder of this past are the totally un-Spanish names that persist. A hundred years ago, they say, the total vocabulary was around 3,000 words. Now only proper names and some isolated expressions survive.

Why it has taken so long for the "petas" to drop? I don't know, but the "tourist development" of note, which has taken place in the port-capital of San Sebastian, an excellent *parador* is effectively the only true hotel on the island, dominating the harbour where Fred Olsen's car ferry calls twice a day. It is bringing more independent holidaymakers than before, of course, but they are obliged to seek private accommodation or pensions. Lack of bed-space on the grand scale has clearly deterred tour operators.

Nevertheless, it is now possible to rent a car locally but it is an understatement to say that you must like driving, for hardly anywhere is flat. There are soaring mountains one minute, barren but for prickly pears and candelabra cactus, high tropical vegetation the next as the road veers past sheer precipices and into the justly renowned Spanish National Park of Garajonay, where a fire last September claimed 20 victims.

Driving through the primeval ground cover of laurel, canary pine and giant heather, the

splendid sight of Tenerife away to the east is guaranteed to force a halt. Its central volcano, Teide, rises serenely like Mt Fuji above skirts of trade-wind clouds that gather at its northern slopes, producing an effect akin to a giant pyramid afloat on a cotton-wool raft.

The Valle Gran Rey itself has hardly changed in a decade, give or take a new shop or two, a tiny office dispensing accommodation advice and several new bar-restaurants - where one can eat well for under £4 with wine. There are half a dozen clustered round a rather scruffy

Accommodation in the most stunning setting

black beach (perfectly clean enough for bathing once you are used to volcanic sand) at one side of the valley. You can rent rooms or apartments here or in La Calera, a little way inland, which is rather reminiscent of Mykonos with its white cubist houses.

At Argaga, a banana finca owned by a British couple, Richard and Imchen Sanderson, there is beachfront accommodation to let in the most stunning of settings. Moreover, they are willing to help with the transfer from the ferry for those without transport (a taxi ride will cost around £13).

The odd name is Guanche for "a place in the sun". Here, anyway, are two expatriates who have found their, in this most fortunate of Fortunate Islands where the temperature seldom drops below a daytime 21°C and it is to be hoped there will always be space in the shade of the palms.

Holiday pledge in the air

TRAVEL NEWS

Two leading tour operators, Thomson Holidays and Rank Travel, may guarantee their 1986 summer programmes against holiday alterations and cancellations, or "consolidations" as they are known in the travel business.

The big travel agency chains have reported that almost a quarter of package holidays this summer have been affected by changes. Mr Keith Webber, marketing director of Pickfords Travel, says the level of consolidations has been greater than he can remember and he has urged tour operators to be more generous in compensating those affected.

A similar call has come from the Consumers' Association, which has urged its members to claim maximum compensation for consolidations, at least matching the charges imposed by tour operators when holiday-makers want to cancel or change their holidays.

Thomson has admitted that it is "considering" a no-consolidation pledge but declines to elaborate on its plans, while Rank Travel - which operates the Wings, OSL and Ellemar Sunlight programmes - says it may give a similar guarantee.

But some operators, including Inasum, oppose the idea of a guarantee because they say, operators would have to be ultra-cautious about introducing new destinations or departing airports and prices would have to be increased to offset the risk of low aircraft loads.

Falkland foray

The first package tours to the Falkland Islands since the 1982 conflict are being operated in November and January by Edinburgh-based Ian Dickson Travel Service. The two-week tours will be led by Commander Angus Eddison, an expert on the wildlife of the islands, and groups will travel on Ministry of Defence charters from RAF Brize Norton. Three days will be spent in Port Stanley, with visits to some of the battle areas, and the rest of the time will be spent visiting some of the outer islands with the best variety of wildlife.

Accommodation will be in a small hotel in Port Stanley and in private homes or farmhouses. Participants are warned not to expect private bathrooms "or any form of luxury". The tour price of £2,995 includes all meals and accommodation and internal transport. Information on 031-556 6777.

Way of the world

The latest edition of *World Travel Guide*, an annual minencyclopedia covering nearly every country in the world, has just been published. The 720-page guide gives the useful facts and figures about each country and up-to-date information on passport, visa and health requirements, currency and accommodation, as well as descriptions of the main resort areas, and useful hints on local lifestyles and etiquette. *World Travel Guide* is available from Columbus Press, 39 Margaret Street, London W1 (01-629 6376) at £30, post free.

Philip Ray

Where all paths lead to the Brandenburg Gate

Frank Johnson joins Soviet bloc tourists amid the historic grandeur of East Berlin

Summer holidays in East Berlin. The notion lacks the routine glamour of "escaping to endless sun", "dancing under the stars to internationally renowned orchestras", "lots for the children to do" and the rest of conventional tourism's dire resources. This is partly because the idea of escaping is discouraged by East Berlin's authorities.

Nearly all foreign tourists in East Berlin, apart from westerners on day visas from across the Wall, are from the industrial fastnesses of the Soviet Union or places grimmer, such as the industrial fastnesses of Romania.

Among the first holidaymakers we encountered were a group of stocky, olive-skinned, shiny-black-haired men forming an impromptu choir around a long bench in Alexanderplatz. They sang beautifully in what seemed a half-Slavonic, half-Latin language and sounded like the Red Army choir with a Maltese accent. One of the appreciative semi-circle of listeners explained that this was Romanian.

The singers were citizens of the most nostalgically Stalinist country in the Eastern bloc. They could have been singing about what it was like to be in love in Romania, or what it was like to exceed the pig-iron production norm and thus qualify for a summer holiday in East Berlin.

Whichever, they made a jollier sound than the dozens of dated Bob Dylans, from many lands, to be heard whining on street corners over the other side.

Berlin Alexanderplatz was chosen by Alfred Döblin as the title of his novel about the Berlin of the 1920s because it suggested - as would Piccadilly or the Champs Elysees - that it was a book set among the bustle and intrigue of a big city. Today the rebuilt Alexanderplatz resembles the pedestrian shopping precinct of a large British council estate.

Instead of bustling, the crowds sit on benches and low walls. Traffic has been banished. The hotels and department stores look anemic and mid-twentieth-century. Compared with the extravagance on display a few miles west, the modest window displays here are doubtless gratifying to the egalitarian mind.

East German officialdom retorts: compare us with the rest

of the East, not with the West. That is how the eastern tourists seem to see it too.

The Reichstag, a few feet away from the concrete and machine guns, has just managed to stay in the West. But East Berlin contains most of the



Restored to his place: Frederick the Great

surviving grandeur of the pre-war city centre, either because of a quirk of the post-war occupation agreement, or because of a Soviet determination to control the symbols of authority. In the east can be found bits of the glowering, Bismarckian government quarter, the classical state opera house of 1743, the baroque arsenal (the greatest building in all Berlin); the equestrian statue of Frederick the Great.

Frederick was restored to his place a few years ago as the East German regime sought legitimacy by emphasizing its Prussian heritage. Cloak-flowing, he rides the Unter den Linden boulevard in the general direction, rather subversively, of his enemy Russia. Some of all this is still marked by shells and bullets, which only emphasise the constant presence of ghosts. Some of it is being superbly restored.

All of it coexists with workers' flats and blank trade ministries. It is as if in London democracy and capitalism flourished south of the river,

while communism had Westminster. Whitehall and Trafalgar Square, with perhaps a Holiday Inn in the Mall to attract hard-currency visitors.

The East European tourists, brought by the coachload from modest hotels and lodging houses on the edge of the city to look on these old glories, wander dutifully about them. Slavonic tongues echo round the columns and squares. But these tourists seem even more anxious to get it over with than sightseers in the free world. This is because the flow of strollers is always westwards, towards the Brandenburg Gate which divides East and West.

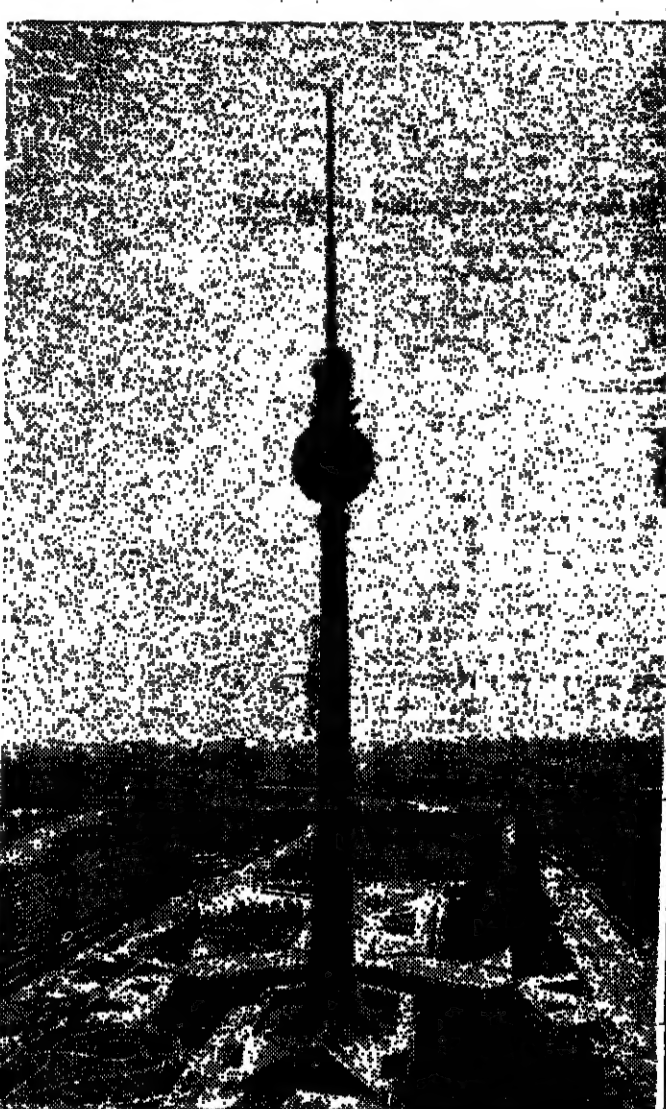
Only the westerners among them can cross. The easterners just stare after them. On the eastern side of the gate, unlike the western side, there are no observation platforms for looking across the wall. So the easterners gaze across at the westerners gazing down at them. Both are silent.

The trees of the huge Tiergarten stretch away on the western side, so the glitter of West Berlin cannot be seen. For a better view of capitalism, the tourists ascend the East German television tower nearby. Then it is back to the Alexanderplatz for some more cheap but decent beer.

On the eastern side, a few hundred yards from the Brandenburg Gate, nothing marks the place of death of the man who made all this possible. East Berlin's street maps give no hint of Hitler's bunker. Even people who know a lot about the city sometimes say it is in the no-man's land behind the Wall.

The American colleague with whom I was travelling adopted the direct approach of stopping East Berliners and asking them the way to Hitler's last HQ, while I covered in the background. Tenuously, he narrowed the search to a building site in the Otto Grotrich Strasse.

One of the builders, asked to confirm the significance of the spot said, irritably though understandably: "It was nothing to do with me." Another said he just did not know. Eventually a middle-aged woman, passing cheerfully confirmed it. The bunker was under that pile of earth next to those workmen. They were building flats on it, she explained. Next to the site was a children's playground with sandpit and slide.



High-rise: East Berlin's television tower

Some of our eastern fellow-visitors also searching for diversions, had meanwhile found a discotheque on the Unter den Linden. The music coming out of it was the same as in the West, but not the look of the place.

Through the large windows, we could spot the Russians. Both men and women tended to wear chequered shirts of the kind worn in the West for the square dancing fad of the early 1950s. They bobbed decorously among the more abandoned East German youth.

As night fell we, unlike them, could go the Friedrichstrasse station and get on the train which rattles its way safely above the minefield and over the wall to West Berlin. Ahead, all was neon - which we westerners not only take for granted but often find garish. For the easterners looking up at the sky from the Brandenburg Gate, it is an additional tourist attraction.

TRAVEL NOTES

The Tourist Office of the German Democratic Republic is Berlin, Travel, 20 Conduit Street, London W1R 6TD (01-629 1664).

Flights to East Berlin can be booked through British Airways. BA flights direct to West Berlin cost from £104 (Apex return) to £310 (Club Class return).

Day visitors to East Berlin must change 25 DM (about £8.50) at the border and spend it in the east.

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SHOPPING

The beauty of pot luck arrangements

The right container enhances floral display. Suzanne Greaves picks an attractive bunch

Anyone who has ever taken a bunch of flowers to a hospital patient, only to see them stuffed into an ugly NHS glass vase, must have wished that the art of simple flower arranging was included in someone's hospital training. Flowers give enormous pleasure: how they are displayed can turn a humble bunch of daffodils into a blaze of golden glory lighting up the corner of a dark room.

The notion that leaves, buds and blooms can only be stood soldier fashion in an upright glass vase denies the levels of artistry already achieved with flowers. Most flower arrangers are enthusiastic magpies who hunt jumble sales and second-hand shops in search of discarded wine-goblets, copper kettles, bottles, baskets and assorted jugs and bowls.

The traditional cut-glass vase seems to be the thing to give or receive at a wedding or retirement party. At £70 plus for a good piece of English cut glass it's unlikely to be the sort of thing you buy for yourself.

The best place to start hunting out suitable receptacles is the kitchen crockery cupboard, advises Michael Sykes, horticulturist and florist. "All household utensils like jars, pans and old tea-pots make excellent containers," he says. "Sometimes their value is overlooked." His shop, Margaret Kay in Bishops Cleeve, Herefordshire, is typical of any good local florist. Such a shop has standard lines in containers which the novice can afford and can then move on to the more unusual and costly.

Choose from assorted plastic holders, good for transporting arrangements to a flower class from 55p. Imitation soap stone cherubs, suitable for low arrangements, cost from £6.50, assorted china shapes from £8, novelty porcelain carrier bags from £3.95 and imitation Wedgwood plant pot holders from 65p.

In your high street search you will find Marks & Spencer, Habitat and the John Lewis group offer an interesting range of container for both flower and plant. They are made from popular terracotta, wood with waterproof linings, stone and china in all colours and shapes.

The demand for terracotta in which to display plants and flowers has meant moving into larger premises for potters Sheila and Bob Evans of Ezra Street, Dalston, London. To see the range of shapes and finishes is to set creative fingers itching to fill their pots with great bunches of summer blooms. You can go from a conical pot for 95p to a turn with pedestal at £24, a trough in various sizes from £7.50 to £21.50 and handled bowls from £11.95 to £19.

If you do buy terracotta pots, remember they are porous to varying degrees. Bob Evans advises soaking them first in as much water as possible before filling with plants or flowers. If you are thinking of creating an outdoor display then the open flower pot shapes are less likely to crack through frost.

Flowers gathered by children



(Back row, from left) plain coloured round pot from £12.50 (major John Lewis branches); Sante Fé eggshell glaze vase, £13.95, and platter £8.95 (Habitat); (middle row) tall speckled vase £12.50 (Habitat); white rectangular vase £4.95 (Habitat); Chrysanthemum range vase £7.99 (Marks & Spencer); white oval vase £7.50 (Habitat); (front row) Royal Wilton tulip vase £6.50 (John Lewis stores); elephant planter £9.99 (major Marks & Spencer stores); Dartington conical glasses from £5.50 (John Lewis branches); Chrysanthemum vase £7.99 (M & S).

POT SHOTS

You need accessories to ensure blooms and foliage stay in place. Here is a winner list.

Flower scissors: the saw-edges cut right through woody stems.

Pin holders: in different shapes and sizes from £1.90 and used mainly in shallow dishes or for securing heavy foliage.

Oasis or Florepack: Spongy material which is soaked in water before being packed into the container. It secures blooms but is used only for emergencies by serious arrangers.

Plasticine: to secure the base of heavy pin-holders.

Wire-netting: cut to size and roughly bent within the container so stems slip through.

Stub wires: for applying false stems to dry flowers.

Collect driftwood, pebbles and marbles to enhance the total flower display picture.

on a country walk look their best in a stone jar or simple glass posy container where you can see the tiny water bubbles clustered around the stems. Habitat do such bowls from £1.20 and more stately glass vases with great swirls around the side from £4.25.

So which comes first - selection of foliage or container? It's an important question whether you are placing flowers in an old Norman church, arranging a centerpiece for a dinner table or choosing a festive theme.

Unless you live in a city and have to buy your flowers, a walk around the garden and lanes should fire the imagination. So should a hunt through cupboards because the container has to enhance a flower shape without dominating. Shell shapes filled with tiny buds look fragile and pretty underneath a lamp. Plant life grasses and

berries look wonderful in pewter, brass and stone jugs. Perhaps you are lucky enough to possess a vase or bowl of cut glass. Treat it with respect and never place it in the dishwasher, advises a John Lewis glassware specialist. Wash simply in warm soapy water and hand-dry, rinsing water to avoid cracking.

English and Irish glass costs more because of the amount of lead it contains and the depth of cuts in the vase, which account for the brilliant rainbow light.

John Lewis has a good selection of glass in all their branches, ranging from inexpensive Polish containers to English rosebells topped with silver-plated mesh through which you slide the flower stems. In the hunt for family heirlooms do not overlook candlesticks, especially ones with deep Victorian holders. They make unusual and elegant display material.

DRINK

Old style service for classic tastes

At the bottom of St James's Street past John Lobb, boot-maker, and James Lock, hatters, opposite the Palace, you'll find another ancient establishment - Berry Bros and Rudd. Most of London's old traditional wine merchants have been swallowed up by the big wine, spirit and brewing boys; somehow Berry Bros has remained.

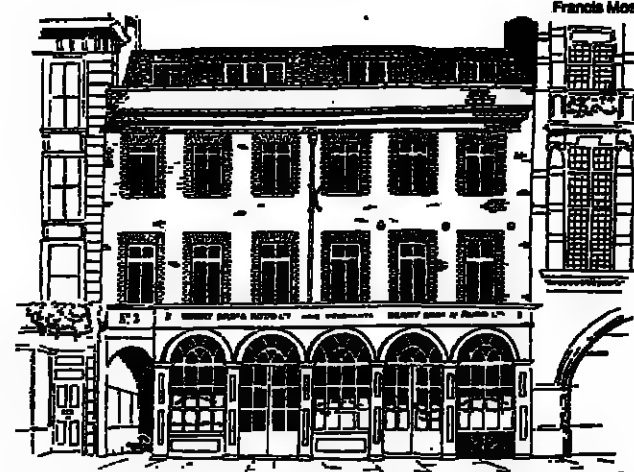
Step inside 3 St James's Street and it is as if you have entered the front office of a 19th-century wine merchant. There are tall roll-up desks, dark panelled walls, a fireplace, dozens of dusty old port bottles.

Berry Bros' pride and joy, however, is not a venerable piece of wine paraphernalia but a giant pair of 17th-century weighing beams, suspended from the ceiling, one still with its huge pair of scales attached. Since 1765, anybody who was anybody has been weighed on these scales (and their weights recorded in an endless series of large leather-bound books) including Byron, Beau Brummell and Napoleon III.

These scales, originally used to weigh coffee, tea or spices, are an important link with 'Berry Bros' past for the firm, founded by Widow Bourne in 1699, was originally a grocer's.

The first Berry married into the firm in the mid-18th century, and although the firm's tercentenary is not until 1999, it is currently celebrating the anniversary of the completion of the building of Number Three, St James's Street.

An irrelevant anniversary, you might think, except that it happened 250 years ago and Berry Bros is one of the few wine merchants to have traded



Traditional lines: Berry Bros and Rudd in St James's Street

for such a long time on the same site.

Today, members of the sixth and seventh generation of the Berry family still run the firm with John Rudd (son of the first Rudd) as managing director. Berry Bros enjoys its traditional old-fashioned image, but it is successful blended Scotch whisky, Cutty Sark, is undoubtedly the reason why this firm has remained independent.

Yet despite the ancient lineage and upper-crust traditions, from about 1980 onward the company has been trying, barely according to Alastair Peables, their sales director - to widen their range and appeal by selling what he calls "interesting wines at sensible prices". Sampling cases, "everyday drinking" wines plus a trio of Australian wines have all recently appeared in Berry's elegant pocket-book of a list, alongside the expected classical pages entitled Bordeaux, Burgundy and Hock.

Customers with classical tastes probably still get the best from Berry's. A good buy currently, although it has had its ups and downs in the past, is Berry's Good Ordinary Claret, whose slight tobacco nose and young, fresh, juicy taste should meet with few complaints (£2.98). Other inexpensive

wines which would make good aperitif tipples include the fragrant, musky Sémillon Sec from Bordeaux - a wine that is streets ahead of other similarly priced Sémillons from this region (£2.70). Berry Bros also stocks a fine classic Alsace wine - the '83 Cuvée Particulière Gewürztraminer from René Schmidt that is a good buy (£4.70).

To mark its 250th anniversary, Berry Bros and Rudd is offering two special celebration cases at specially discounted prices until September 30. Case A, for £51, contains among other wines Berry's soft, lively, fruity Extra Dry méthode champenoise sparkling from the Loire (£4.15), a mature, cheery '76 claret - Château Reysen - with its pleasing green pepper nose (£4.50), plus that glorious pudding wine the '81 Clos Saint Georges (£3.95).

Case B, for £99.75, offers a selection that includes the stylish, green, grapey '83 Biddenden Ortega that came top in *The Times* English wine tasting in the spring, plus a magnum of '71 Chevre Chambertin from Doudet-Naudin (£28.50), plus a bottle each of Berry's Fine Liqueur Cognac and William Liqueur 20-year-old tawny port.

Jane MacQuitty

OUT AND ABOUT

Full steam ahead on the river

If you've never taken a trip on a paddle steamer - whatever the weather and regardless of your affections for steam - I can guarantee you will feel at least a frisson of excitement as you stand on the deck of the Waverley, the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world, and watch, smell and listen to the great engine at work. Her home port is the Clyde but this month Londoners will be able to ride on her down to the Thames.

Waverley was "rescued" by the Paddle Steamer Preservation Society (PSPS) some years ago and has been giving pleasure to those who have boarded her (estimated at more than one million) ever since. This year she has been joined by a vintage river paddle steamer, Kingswear Castle, which is operated on the Medway.

There were paddle steamers on the Medway from 1837 until



Paddle power: Kingswear Castle, built in 1924, on the river Medway in Kent

1963 when the Medway Queen, a Dunkirk veteran, was finally withdrawn from service. Kingswear Castle shares the same birthday as Medway Queen - built in 1924 - but she was the property of the River Dart Steamboat Company, the third of three sister ships constructed from an 1880 design and she remained on the Dartmouth/Totnes run for all but the war years, until she was finally laid up and withdrawn

from service in 1965. It took nearly 10 years to restore her: much of the work was done by volunteers.

Most of her structure had to be dismantled, then repaired, replaced or rebuilt but, thanks largely to volunteers from the PSPS, by November 1983 she was ready to be tested successfully under the utterly competent command of David Neill, Master of the Waverley, and Ken Blacklock, the latter's

chief engineer. She operated a limited service in 1984 but this summer has seen her steaming at full strength along the Medway and Thames, with John Megoran at the helm. Highlights of the season, in which she performed "better than we ever expected", include carrying 37 mayors at an Edwardian fair and a hundred sea captains on a day out.

Judy Froshang

OUTINGS

ALL ABOARD

Waverley will be making a number of excursions from Tower Pier on Sept 15, 18, 21, 22. Contact: Waverley Excursions, 30 Lancelotti Quay, Glasgow (041 221 8152).

Kingswear Castle departs from Chatham Dockyard at 2.30pm, Broad Pier 3pm for short cruise. Adult £4.95, child £2.50.

Sept 14: Round day trip, leaving Whitstable on Waverley 11am, cruise up Thames on launch, cross via ferry Tilbury to Gravesend, bus to Strood thence aboard Kingswear; arrive at Whitstable 11pm. Adult £12.95, child £6.50.

Sept 15: Short cruise around Strood on Kingswear Castle between 11am-1.15pm, Adult £2.95, child £1.50.

Sept 17: Round trip on Kingswear Castle leave Strood 9.30am cruise down Medway and through River Dart to Chatham. Adult £12.95, child £6.50.

Sept 22: Last official trip of the season. Kingswear Castle leaves Chatham at 2.30pm. Strood 3pm. Cruise to Gravesend via ferry, bus to Strood thence aboard Kingswear; return Chatham 5pm. Adult £5.95, child £2.95.

Kingswear Castle, AOHM's House, Chatham Historic Dockyard, Chatham (0684 827648).

If the ambitious city elders get their way, Birmingham will become synonymous with fast cars and sports stars. For they want to stage Grand Prix racing in the streets and host the 1992 Olympic Games.

That's all still in the melting pot, so the place that's best known for Spaghetti Junction proudly presents its own international food festival. This involves 20 restaurants and springs from an idea by Jonathan Bedford and Jonathan Baker. Their restaurant Jonathan's is dedicated to Victorian decor and cooking.

Lurking innocently in a suburban shopping parade (a common location for Birmingham's restaurants), Jonathan's hides a maze of panelled and upholstered dining rooms.

On their repertoire are dishes such as Withshire roll (pork backed with lemon pickle and thyme, served with gooseberry relish), poached turkey breast with smoked oyster sauce, chicken stuffed with ham mousse and poached gammon with cherry sauce.

A Sunday lunch (£9.50 for three courses, including coffee and chocolates) revealed expert

International flavour in Birmingham

touches with soups and savouries, inventive vegetables, but sadly tasteless meat.

Visitors should nevertheless be tempted by their festival menu with six courses at £22.50 or, as the Jonathans prefer to mark it, 22/5p. Centred on roast grouse in mushroom and Madeira sauce, it will also embrace a Burlington Whimsy (parsley and spiced meat savoury), Benton horns (smoked salmon with prawns in mustard, caper and horseradish sauce) and bread and butter pudding.

Rather more modish fare is on offer at Sloan's, a highly-regarded fish restaurant tucked away in a quiet shopping parade. Highlights include the poached sea-bass with a Ricard sauce flecked with chives (£10.50). Thornback ray fillet steamed in a foil parcel on a bed of leeks (£8.70), and delightful

fillets of sole in a creamy tarragon sauce.

If the festival hints at excess, you could always adjourn to Whitakers for adventurous, non-militant vegetarian food. Inventive adaptation of classical dishes produces notable successes - vegetables bourguignonne and stragout.

With pleasant surroundings (despite another shopping parade setting), delicious puddings (chilled orange zabaglione) and a full range of drinks, Whitaker's is that rarity - a vegetarian restaurant to be enjoyed.

Stan Hey

FOOD NOTES

Jonathan's, 18-20 Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, Birmingham (021 429 3757) Open: daily noon-3pm (except Sat) and 7pm-10pm. Sloan's, 27-29 Chad Square, Hawthorne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham 15 (021 465 6697) Open: Mon-Fri noon-2pm, Mon-Sat 7pm-10pm. Whitakers, 158 Broad Street, Five Ways, Birmingham 15 (021 632 5590) Open: Mon-Sat 11.30am-10pm. For details of festival, and brochure, phone Birmingham's Tourist Information Centre (021-643 2514).

TIMES GUERNSEY FISHERMAN'S SWEATER

Previous offers for Times Guernsey knitter have proved very popular: both men and women appreciate the warmth, comfort and easy style it provides.

This classic Fisherman's Sweater is an attractive addition to our Guernsey range. As with our previous offers it is a high-quality garment specially made for Times readers in Guernsey of 100% pure new wool. This Fisherman's Sweater features a traditional style - deep ribbing on neck and cuffs, with patterning around the drop shoulders and the hem. It is available in a choice of 3 colours - Navy, Oatmeal or Red. Tough and practical, it makes for ideal outdoor wear, yet is smart enough to wear on any kind of occasion.

This classic sweater will be a welcome addition to any wardrobe.

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Please note that if you prefer to wear this garment loose you should purchase a size larger than normal.

THE TIMES

The Times Guernsey Fisherman's Sweater Offer, Bourne Road, Beckley, Kent, DA5 1BL. Tel: Crawford (0322) 53316 for enquiries only.



All prices are inclusive of post and packing. All orders are despatched within 7 days of receipt - please allow up to 14-21 days for delivery. If you are not satisfied, The Times will refund your money without question. This offer can only be despatched to addresses in the UK.

Please send me: Guernsey Fisherman's Sweater(s) as indicated @ £34.95 each.

COLOUR	Small (36in)	Medium (38in)	Large (40in)	Extra Large (42in)
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I enclose Cheque/PO for £ made payable to Times Guernsey Fisherman's Offer, send to The Times Guernsey Fisherman's Offer, Bourne Road, Beckley, Kent DA5 1BL.

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FESTIVAL OF SEVEN SISTERS

Camden Chinese Community celebrate the festival which dates back to the 8th century BC in China - the oriental equivalent of our St Agnes Eve when maidens look to their future. Stalls, demonstrations - including acupuncture - Chinese food and variety of performances, starting at 1pm with the Lion Dance, followed by lung tung demonstrations, Chinese music and dance. Camden Lock West Yard, London NW1. Further information: (01-485 4457 or 287 3019). Today from noon. Free.

TEIGNMOUTH HARBOUR FESTIVAL: Now in its 15th year, with raft races, children's fancy dress and other competitions; blessing of the boats - according to tides - in the harbour.

The Harbourside, off Humberland Place, Teignmouth, Devon. Further information: Andrew Pearson (08267 2073). Today from 10.30am.

RYDE ILLUMINATED CARVIVAL PROCESSION: Culmination of the carnival week with some 50-60 illuminated floats accompanied by four bands making their way through the streets of Ryde. Carnival dance follows at the Solein Court Hotel, Ryde, Isle of Wight. Further information (0883 524343). This evening from 8.45pm depart Canoe Lake. Free. Admission to dance £1.

PORT OF DARTMOUTH ROYAL REGATTA: Last day of this well-known regatta - rowing, swimming, sailing, tug-of-war, bowls, road races plus a number of displays, parade of old craft, exhibitions. Port of Dartmouth, Devon. Further information: Mr Bassene (08043 3450). Today from 8am-11pm. Free.

TWO DAY COUNTRY FAIR SPECTACULAR: Excellent country fair with grand ring events - aerobics, free-fall parachuting, hot air balloon, parade of horse-drawn vehicles, hound display, sheep-shearing, fly casting, falcon, flying and, on Sunday only, massed pipe bands. House, garden and farm free to those with ticket to fair. Chesham Gardens, Chesham, Bucks. Further information: Mr Cuthbert (0328 75397). Today, tomorrow 9.30am-7pm. Adult £2, child £1, car £2.

TAXI DRIVER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

The BS finalist navigates the purpose-built obstacle course in Battersea Park (winner to be announced 5pm) plus charity stalls, marching bands, vintage taxis and classic cars, and the hospital broadcasting service, Radio Lollipop.

Further information: John Jacobs (01-550 2192). Tomorrow 10am-5pm. Free.

A TASTE OF TOLETHORPE: Medieval country fair with morris men, jugglers, street entertainers. Toilethorpe Hall, Little Casterton, Stamford, Lincs. Further information: Mr A. E. Gurr (0572 812 469). Tomorrow 11am-5pm. Adult £1, child 50p.

NATIONAL WATER PENTATHLON: Competition to find the best water sports all-rounder from women, juniors (16 to 18), men and veterans (over 35). All will compete in five disciplines - windsurfing, canoeing, rowing, swimming, dinghy sailing. National Water Sports Centre, Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham (0602 821212). Tomorrow 10.30am-5pm. Free.

TIMES REMEMBERED: Counting in haystacks, opium dealing in Chinatown and pawing dad's suit are among the memories of Londoners between the wars featured in the exhibition 'The Making of Modern London 1814-1939'. The era is recalled by photographs, documents, maps and cassette tapes. Museum of London, London Wall, London EC2 (01 800 3699). Opens Tues. Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Free until Nov 10.

J.F.

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 4 Italian money (4)
 5 Dispatch (4)
 6 At no place (7)
 7 Priest's robe strips (6,5)
 8 Passing comments (6,5)
 12 Demigod (6)
 14 Moose (3)
 15 Nanki-Poo's father (8)
 19 Apparent (7)
 20 Head covering (3)
 24 Prize (5)
 25 Not as much (4)
 26 Grain husks (4)
 27 Blackthorn (4)

SOLUTION To No 735
ACROSS: 1 Hatred 5 Accede 8 Eel 9 Loggia
 10 Oncest 14 Semi 12 Premiere 14 Demean
 17 Badger 19 Gloaming 22 Wish 24 Ermine
 25 Ingots 26 Run 27 Zealot 28 Gerund
DOWN: 2 Atone 3 Rastaine 4 Deadpan 5 Alone
 6 Cacti 7 Deserve 13 Moss 15 Galang 16 Arm
 17 Bugging 18 Downer 20 Ariel 21 Inert
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REVIEW

A lifetime of Lieder

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau: Compact Disc Edition, DG 415 185-2 to 415 192-2. Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau: Der Liedersänger, EMI 29 0429 3, Der Opensänger 29 0432 3, Der Konzertsänger, 29 0435 3.

Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau is 60 this year, and the record companies are celebrating. Deutsche Grammophon's seven new compact discs present a sampling of all the Lieder he has recorded for them between 1958 and 1975. EMI have released nine black discs, in three boxed sets, carefully selecting recordings from his entire output from as early as 1952 to his Munich performance of Schubert's Lazarus just two years ago.

The emphasis is on Lieder, and rightly so. In his recital and recording programmes he has revealed new contexts, a sense of new coherence; in recording some cycles three or four times over, he has monitored his own changing understanding with obsessive thoroughness. Above all, he has brought the mind and sensibility of the literary critic to song itself.

It is to be found in his Beethoven, as EMI's boxed set last November showed so well. Here, it is DG's *Die Feme Geliebte* (415 189-2) and seven songs recorded with Jörg Demus in 1966 which reveal that depth of understanding which was to rehabilitate Beethoven as a song composer in his own right. And then Brahms. The first song Dietrich ever studied was the "Feldensamkeit". Still one of his most mesmerically compelling interpretations, it is here with the *Four Serious Songs*, his first ever recording for DG.

The 1970 Lieder since his farewell recital with Kubelick (also on 415 191-2) makes an illuminating comparison with HMV's 1952 recording with Furtwängler. The earlier performance, recorded when Dietrich was only 27, is heavy with melancholy, weighed down by images of sleep and dream; by 1970, the voice is lighter, orchestral textures more finely pointed. The knife both penetrates and is turned.

Dietrich's hypersensitivity to verbal nuance comes into his own in Schumann. DG have chosen his 1979 *Dichterliebe* and 1977 *Eichendorff Lieder*, both with Christoph Eschenbach (415 190-2). The extraordinary pacing of his vocal and musical reserves of expression in "Ich grüße dich" epitomizes the strength of the entire cycle.

There are times, though, when we are too aware of the sheer weight of Dietrich's



Nuance and intelligence: Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau

intelligence; it has always been a heavy burden for him to bear. The strain of accumulated awareness is most apparent in the 1970s, and DG have drawn, perhaps, rather too heavily on this period.

Listen, for example, to HMV's extract from the same *Lieder* cycle, in "Mondnacht", recorded with Gerald Moore in 1964, every second is treasured, and with the voice still hushed with wonder. Similarly, DG's two major Schubert cycles, *Die Schöne Müllerin* (415 186-2) and *Winterreise* (415 187-2) of 1972 with Moore are in many ways definitive performances.

As a whole, DG's set celebrates song achievement, whereas the EMI disc presents us with rarities: single, meticulously selected pearls of great price. In EMI's *Liedersänger* box, we are treated to songs by Liszt and Nietzsche, accompanied by Arlbert Reimann, and then Reimann's own setting of Paul Celan's "Ange der Zeit". As *Konzertsänger*, we hear cherished recordings from the early 1960s, of Telemann's *Canary*

Canary and Bach's *Peasant Cantata*.

From his 1948 Berlin debut as Rodrigo in *Don Carlos*, Fischer-Dieskau's career in opera has been constantly feeding his development as a musician. As *Operasänger*, then, EMI takes us from his 1952 *Kurwenal* in Furtwängler's *Tristan*, to the consummate skills in dramatic dialogue of his 1980 Strauss *Intermezzo* with Sawallisch. On the way, we hear Dietrich tuning his voice to the depths of Iago's soul in his 1968 *Otello* "Credo" with Barbirolli, matched in breadth of perception only by his 1959 "Mondo ladro" from Falstaff, Dietrich's favourite from over 70 roles.

Spoiled, in three decades of vocal revolution, by this *embarras de richesses*, we may well prefer now to expose our palates to the refreshment of the very old, or the very new. Meanwhile, these recordings provide a living monument to an artist who continues to surprise.

Hilary Finch

New team for an old story

CBS's *Cenerentola* out this month uses an almost identical team to the one in *L'italiana in Algeri* issued on the same label earlier in the year. Lucia Valentini Terrani is there as the spearhead in the title role. Enzo Dara, most accomplished of Rossini buffos, is to provide the guinea and the *faletti*. Gabriela Ferro is again the conductor of the Cappella Coloniensis, using original instruments.

Cinderella probably predates *The Italian Girl* as the cover for the set lists 1980 as the recording year. But since it also describes *Cenerentola* as a "comic opera in three acts", instead of the "melodramma giocoso in due atti" we all know and love, perhaps it should not be trusted implicitly.

Ferro produces a crisp sound and registers the fact that the libretto Ferretti provided for Rossini is concerned less with magic than with a sentimental love story. The first meeting of Cinderella and her Prince, "Un soave non so che", could almost bring a *Bohème*-like tear to the eye as handled by Francisco Araiza.

Thereafter Valentini Terrani sounds a little too plummy for my ears and preference goes to Teresa Berganza on DG's rival set. The smoky melancholy in

Rossini: *La cenerentola*. Valentini Terrani/Araiza/Dara/Capella Coloniensis/Ferro. CBS Masterworks, 78359 (cassette). Carreras: French Opera Arias. Royal Opera House. Orchestra/Delacoste. (EMI 27 0282 1) (cassette).

The Spanish mezzo's voice suited her ideally for this role and made the final outburst of happiness in the rondo, "Non più mesta", all the more effective. CBS score with Enzo Dara's *Don Magnifico*, whose vocal strutting and galling-gun delivery (when required) fit him excellently for the part. His karmic, too, for Domenico Trimarchi's Dandini. But I will say with the exuberance that Claudio Abbado's team and the LSO brought to their earlier Edinburgh Festival recording. Connoisseurs may also find Simonato's heavily cut Cetera issue in some dusty record shop corner; she, with Berganza, is the best of Cinderellas.

Jose Carreras's recital on EMI does not start too convincingly with Faust's "Salut, demeure" despite a ringing high C. Thereafter it gets better and better with "O Souverain, O Juge" from *Le Cid* and Roméo's "Où-ve-toi seule" from Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*. He has the lightness of touch for another Aubade. "Vaisement, ma bien aimée" from *Le Roi d'Ys*, although "O paradis" (*L'Africain*) suggests that Meyerbeer may still be a little heavyweight for him. All in all, an enterprising and well balanced issue.

In brief: Peter Hofmann and Deborah Sasson, accompanied by Michael Tilson Thomas, provide in *Bernstein on Broadway* a very different approach to the *Side Story* than the composer did recently on DG (Horzu CBS FM 39535) - recommended.

On CD: Carol Farley has two contrasting issues: Poulenc's monologue *La Voix humaine* and the closing scenes from Strauss's *Capriccio* and *Daphne* (Chandos CHAN 8331, 8364). The Poulenc suits her best. Marilyn Hill Smith, has a fluent *Treasures of Opera* (CHAN 8362) - a pity they are, all in English.

Callas's first recording of *Tosca* is more than 20 years old and still remains the best version. It has been handsomely re-pressed by EMI (CDS 7471758) and has to be the CD of the month. May EMI go on digging into their capacious archives.

John Higgins

Mostly out of key with Mozart

Haydn or Mozart? Curiously, it seems that perfection these days is easier to achieve than imaginative imperfection. For while one needs two hands to count the number of outstanding Mozart pianists, one finger is enough when it comes to Haydn - and that points to Alfred Brendel.

His new disc with the E minor and B minor sonatas is his third Haydn release, and it comes with a recording of Mozart's two minor-key sonatas that makes one ask why he should be such an extraordinary Haydn performer and yet so peculiarly inept in Mozart.

Indeed, if the Mozart recording had arrived separately one might have been inclined to dismiss it out of hand. Brendel is excellent at keeping one aware of what is happening in the music; witness, for instance, his exploratory move towards the G flat episode in the slow movement of the C minor sonata. In such passages one is kept in marvellous suspense, sensing the danger of the enterprise. But when Mozart is more at ease Brendel cannot be at ease with him.

He refuses to make the piano sing and there are times when this is bound to sound awful; it practically always sounds peculiar. It is not essentially a matter

of colour but rather rhythm. Brendel declines to believe that Mozart is natural, and that disbelief opens up a startling range of oddities, like the very opening of the A minor sonata, which goes with the quivering, spiky gait of a lobster.

If one can stand it, there are certain rewards in being obliged to reconsider the music - particularly when a rather alarming amount of too-easily assumed "expressive" nuance goes along with the cantabile. This is Mozart made quirky and ironic.

It is, put simply, Mozart made Haydn, and inevitably the Haydn disc offers a much closer match of music and musician. As a test of that, one may listen to the opening movement of the E minor sonata, built entirely out of a flurry and an *arpeggio*, itself flurrying. Brendel makes the music sound like the

operation of an acute intelligence, to the extent that one barely notices the restless, emotional character often associated with this sonata. That, surely, is right; just as Brendel sounds exactly right when he enjoys the baroque posturings of the first movement of the short D major sonata, or when he responds with expected liveliness and wit to the C major *Fantasia*. More curious is his choice of the F major Adagio, but the three sonatas and the *Fantasia* offer boundless entertainment.

Claudio Arrau is about more serious business in his 1984 recording of the Chopin scherzos, to which he adds the *Polonaise Fantaisie* to make a pointed survey of Chopin's output in larger single-movement forms. His 81 years need no apology; if there is any weakness, it is just possibly in the simultaneous placing of chords, and not at all in the alacrity these works demand.

Here, by contrast that very definitely has a singing voice. Someone who has been playing these works for a lifetime must be aware of every bar's implications, and this sense of foreknowledge is perhaps most productive in the later pieces.

Paul Griffiths

Half a century of Garbo greatness

FILMS ON TV

There have been 15 screen versions to date of the Tolstoy novel *Anna Karenina*, such is its popularity as a great dramatic platform for leading ladies. But none has been more identified with the tragic heroine than Greta Garbo.

One of the best films to underline the magnetic mystique of this most enigmatic of stars was the 1935 *Anna Karenina*, which launches on Wednesday (6-7.30pm) a BBC2 season to mark Garbo's 80th birthday on September 18.

It was a typically sumptuous production from the MGM studios, ever careful to enhance the glamour of their brightest luminary. And it was as much persona as performance that Garbo brought to her role as a Russian countess seeking escape from a loveless marriage in the arms of a dashing army officer, but ultimately finding deadly despair.

Suffering and loneliness were keynotes in the Garbo canon, with audiences apparently feeling best served when seeing her in anguish, and *Anna Karenina* was thus eminently suited. Garbo, was also refining the role, having played it before in the 1927 *Love*, opposite John Gilbert.

That film's poster slogan - "Garbo and Gilbert in *Love*" - not only capitalized on the actors' well-publicized affair but

demonstrated the unique drawing power of her surname alone. It was further evinced by "Garbo Talks", when she made the transition from silent movies, and "Garbo Laughs" for her first, and rare, venture into comedy with *Ninotchka*.

But do her movies live up to the legend that has survived more than 40 years of retirement? With *Anna Karenina* and the films to be shown in succeeding weeks - *Camille* (1936), *Queen Christina* (1933), *Marie Walewska* (the British title for *Conquest*, 1937) and *Ninotchka* (1939) - there is a welcome opportunity for making one's own judgement.

Certainly not everyone agreed with the description of her by Rouben Mamoulian (who directed Garbo in *Queen Christina*) as "a wonderful instrument".

Graham Greene showed only grudging appreciation in a review, "A great actress? Oh, undoubtedly, one wearily assents, but what dull pompous films... retarded by her haggard equine renunciations, the slow consummation of her noble audacity".

Garbo herself said that she lacked versatility. It seemed no coincidence that it was after her last, universally panned, attempt at comedy, in *Two-Faced Woman*, that she quit a career she had never really enjoyed for the life of a semi-recluse. Perhaps, as she was to say, the "Swedish Sphinx" who zealously guarded her privacy had just showed one face too many.



Magnetic mystique: Greta Garbo and Fredric March in *Anna Karenina*

If Garbo tired of movies, movie fans have never seemed to tire of her. The continuing fascination with an actress acclaimed for her aloof beauty and soulful presence maintains the mystique. Clarence Brown, who directed her in six films, probably said it best: "Without having made a film since 1940, she is still the greatest. She is the prototype of stars."

Mike Sumner

RECOMMENDED

Notorious (1946): Hitchcock has Ingrid Bergman spying on Nazi husband Claude Rains, all for the love of agent Cary Grant (Channel 4, tonight, 11.15pm-1.05am). *The Apartment* (1960): Billy Wilder's scabrous comedy-drama stars Jack Lemmon as kowtowing clerk loaning flat to bosses for extra-marital assignations. (BBC2, tonight, 11.25pm-1.30am). *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (1939): Boasts Basil Rathbone as Conan Doyle's master detective, Nigel Bruce as a bumbling Watson. (BBC2, Mon, 8.10-7.25pm). *All Quiet on the Western Front* (1930): Definitive anti-war film, directed by Lewis Milestone from the Remarque novel. (BBC2, Fri, 11.15-1.30). *Koyaanisqatsi* (1983): Godfrey Reggio's striking satirical documentary on modern America. (Channel 4, Fri, 11.30pm-1.05am). *First British television showing*

Facing up to the scars of war

TELEVISION

If you have bought petrol in Kent, it is possible the man at the pump was a *Battle of Britain* hero with more scars to his credit than Douglas Bader.

For Bob Dea brought down 14½ German planes (the half centing to a shilling "kill") and this virtually unknown flying ace is one of four heroes spotlighted in Churchill's *Few* (ITV, Sunday, 10.30-11.30pm). The film, marking the 45th anniversary of the victory, was made by John Willis. It is an angry portrait which deliberately draws attention away from the medals on the chests of *The Few* to the scars on their faces.

One of the flyers, Geoffrey Page, is seen preparing for his 37th post-war plastic surgery operation.

To talk of the events is still, for most of them, like touching scars, but Willis's characteristic sensitivity produces a film which praises yesterday's bravery without sparing society's embarrassment at their appearance today. Geoffrey Page says peace has brought a new set of enemies - schoolboys who stare at his face in the street.

Two of our finest documentary makers bring out new works this week. Scoraig (BBC2, Sunday, 9.10pm) is by Don Haworth, a remarkable talent who alternates television documentaries with writing radio plays. Here he has produced a portrait of a peninsula in the Scottish Highlands where native crofters have been joined by refugees from civil life.

Cynics will be pleased to see that even for those supposedly keeping up with the Crusades, the Joneses remain an ideal: in the land of darkness, the man with a generator built from scrap is king.

In a week which may prove enjoyable homework for film-school students aspiring to the art of making documentaries, another useful model is *Whicker's World* (BBC 1, Sunday, 8.35-9.30pm). The famous voice, monochrome and spectacles go to America on the trail of expatriate Britons.

In the Colorado Rockies he meets cowboy David Harvey, who was once a Parsons Green policeman. Another ex-PC, Peter Vanson, swapped his London truncheon for a New York beat. It is a film about what America offers but a glance at England now.

Howard's Way (BBC 1, Sunday, 7.45-8.35pm) trails in the wake of *Dynasty* and *Dallas*. Written by Allan Prior and Gerard Glaister, it is a best-yard-based attempt to make a home-grown soap opera. Ken Masters (Stephen Yardley) is a prototype South Coast JR but the central figure is Tom Howard (Maurice Colbourne), an aviation executive made redundant and sinking his pay-off into shipping.

Finally, an opportunity to assess British comedy old and new. *Alf Garnett*, Britain's best-loved bigot, is back in *Sickness and Health* (BBC 1, Sunday, 9.30-10pm) with wife Elsie (Dandy Nichols) in a wheelchair. The writers of *Buzz*, Julian Roach and John Stevenson, have followed up with *The Brothers McGregor* (ITV, Wednesday, 8.30-9pm), a sitcom about two brothers - one black, one white - running a second-hand car business in Liverpool. Both are attempts at comic life - like the NHS and the sole joke - which others may consider beyond laughter.

Mark Lawson

It's your line to the princess

RADIO

A week when broadcasting history is made: Princess Anne, having recently become the first royal to appear on a television chat show (*Wogan*), now becomes the first to appear on a live radio phone-in.

Tuesday Call (Radio 4, 9.05-10am) pairs the Princess with Sue McGregor and a switchboard central to look like Blackpool on a summer night. The questions are unlikely to be controversial, but the occasion is a remarkable advance on the time when a royal "interview" involved the reading aloud of written answers to a series of questions submitted in advance.

The agenda will, says the producer, be Princess Anne's "public duties and her work for organizations such as Save the Children and the Royal Society for the Disabled". Lines will be open from 8am on Tuesday morning: calls on 01-580 4411.

Want to hear a joke? "Piano Sonata No 16 in G Major Opus 31 No 1", says Leonard Pearcey in a new series *Humour in Music* (Radio 4, Today, 3.30pm). The point of the series is that Pearcey, when he speaks of musical humour, does not mean comic songs. There is, he insists, a purely instrumental comedy to be found in pieces like the sonata named above and "quite a bit of laughter to be found in Poulenc's music."

Perhaps it is like *New Yorker* cartoons: one is born with or without the ability to understand them. Pearcey, anyway, seeks to establish Beethoven as an early Victor Borge and the pieces played produce a kind of inside smile: less comic music perhaps than good-humoured. Loosely connected, I Left My Heart in Sutton Coldfield (Radio 4, Monday, 4.30-4.40pm) is one of those "I've



Taking calls: Princess Anne

always wondered... programmes. Fred Bassett, "writer and traveller" has always wondered why American popular song has the monopoly on place-name lyrics.

Across the water, there are hearts left in San Francisco, trains are taken from Chatsworth through the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia and Frank Sinatra has sung allegiance, at different times in his career, to both Chicago and New York.

A map of America is, says Bassett, "like an open song book." But why has no British lyricist hymned Milton Keynes? Why no Padstow in the Springtime? He offers a possible explanation.

Another week when the variety of plays shames Shaftesbury Avenue. *The Contemporary Life* (Radio 3, Sunday, 7.30pm) relies on the atmospheres of the cloister and the swell of plainchant around the lines. Marcia Kahan's short drama tells of the feud between Brother James (Alan Rickman), the ascetic, intellectual monk who worships God from intellectual conviction and Brother Lawrence (Michael Aldridge), a fat, earthy friar whose belief is instinctive and unassailable.

When Brother Lawrence finds ketchup in his bed and his rose garden desecrated, Brother James confesses and must do penance. His problem is in finding tranquillity.

The Works (Radio 3, Wednesday, 9.55-10.30pm) is a monologue written and performed by the actress-dramatist Marcella Svanetti. Conceptua, a writer is struggling to write a lecture on her art as a poet but life - in the terms of an ex-husband, a former lover, a daughter and a nutter on the telephone - keeps creeping in.

Life Skills: *An Adult Education* (Radio 4, Monday, 8.15-9.30pm) is a huge, experimental sprawl of a play, written by Michael O'Neill and the writer-soloist Jeremy Seabrook. Set in a London tenement block, the play centres on Joanie (Maureen O'Farrell), a battered and abandoned wife fleeing from her instinctive doorman mentality towards men with the help of a feminist called Fran. It's the sort of play which leads veterans of the Light Programme to wonder aloud or in print what the BBC is coming to. A more formal complaints procedure is available from Feedback (Radio 4, Friday, 9.45-10pm), the forum for disgruntled listeners. The on-air Ombudsman is now Anthony Howard.

An infamous Address (Radio 4, today, 4.45-5pm) visits the present occupants of houses which once leaped from the road map to the public prints. The modern office block in Lancaster labelled 2 Dalton Square hides the rooms where, in 1935, Dr Buck Ruxton murdered his wife and maid; the brain surgeon living in Edinburgh at 17 Danube Street is on the site of a famous bordello... and so on. The first such address to be considered is the Villa Mederia in Bourne-mouth, once at the centre of the Rottenburg murder case.

M.L.

THE TIMES CHOICE

DANCE

only one more week: you may love it or hate it but you will not be indifferent. Riverside Studios, Hammersmith (01-748 3354). Today, tomorrow and Tues-Sept 8 at 8pm.

CONCERTS

DAVIES NO 3: P. Maxwell Davies's Symphony No 3 reaches the Proms in the hands of the BBC Philharmonic conducted by Edward Downes, who gave its world premiere, with John Lill, they add Graham's Piano Concerto No 2. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 (01-589 8212). Today, 7.30pm.

THE WINNER: José Feghali, winner of the 1985 Van Cliburn Competition, solos in "Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1 with the RPO under Nicholas Cleobury. Also present are Handel's *Water Music* and Beethoven's *Symphony No 5*. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-628 8795, credit cards 01-638 8891). Today, 8pm.

ALDEBURGH CELEBRITY: The autumn series of celebrity recitals at the Maltings begins with Bernard Roberts playing Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op 10 No 3 and 109, and Brahms's *Handel Variations*. The Maltings, Snape, Suffolk (072-885 3543). Tomorrow, 3pm.

LONDON, PASTORAL: Haydn's "London" Symphony and Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony are separated by Mozart's *Exsultate Jubilate* K 165 (Rachel Yakar, soprano). Roger Norrington conducts the London Classical Players. Royal Albert Hall, Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

RUGGLES, RANDS: *Sun-Treader* is probably the American composer Carl Ruggles's best piece. In this Prom by the BBC SO under Dennis

Russell Davies two other American composers, Copland and Gershwin, are represented by their Clarinet Concerto (soloist, Michael Collins) and *An American in Paris*. Rands's *Requiescant* has its world premiere. Royal Albert Hall, Mon, 7.30pm.

BISHOPSGATE ANNIVERSARY: The new season of lunchtime concerts at Bishopsgate Hall opens with Louis Kanner celebrating his 80th birthday with the same programme he gave during the first recital in this series in 1947: Beethoven's Piano Sonata Op 2 No 3 and Liszt's *Après une Lecture de Dante*. Bishopsgate Hall, 220 Bishopsgate, London EC2 (01-247 5844). Tues, 1.05pm.

SECRET THEATRE: Harrison Birtwistle's *Secret Theatre* is one element in an eventful Prom by the London Sinfonietta and Sinfonietta Voices under David Atherton. Also present are Bartók's *Village Scenes*, Janáček's *Rideaux*, Weill's *Barlame Requiem* and Klaine *Drigroschamusik*. Royal Albert Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

OPERA

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA: The London opera season starts again with yet another revival of Jonathan Miller's indeligmatically mafioso *Rigoletto*. Neil Howlett takes the title-role, with Joan Rodgers as the Gilda tonight, and Helen Field taking over on Wed and Fri. Noel Davies conducts. Also this week, the company's first new production of the season, their long-awaited Offenbach *Orpheus in the Underworld*, designed by Gerald Scarman. Preview performances on Thurs and Sept 7. David Pountney directs and Mark Elder conducts a strong cast led by Stuart Calde as



Orpheus, and Nan Christie (above) as Euridice. All performances start at 7.30pm. English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-535 3151). DORSET OPERA: Donizetti's rarely performed *Gabriella di Vergy* will be given an airing by this entertaining company tonight and tomorrow at 7pm. The cast, conducted by Patrick Shelley, includes Marie Slorach and Peter Savidge. Sherborne School Hall, Dorset (0935 812245).

ROCK & JAZZ

GUADALCANAL DIARY: A dramatic name for the latest arrivals in the rush of new guitar-based bands from the America. Dingwalls, Camden Lock, London NW1 (01-267 4967). Tonight.

GONZALITO RUBALCABA: The Cuban pianist's septet blends bebop, jazz-rock and Latin idioms with technical sophistication and a confident swagger, but lacks humour. Ronnie Scott's Club, 47 Ffith

Street, London W1 (01-438 0747). Tonight and Mon to Sat.

THAT PETROL EMOTION: This week's name to drop in avant-rock circles. Sir George Robey, 240 Seven Sisters Road, London N4 (01-263 4581). Tonight.

MARI WILSON: A low-key return (the billing reads "With the DKB Quartet") for the lady whose beehive hairdo and fine voice qualified her for the celebrated title "Neasden's Queen of Soul". Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476). Tues.

ERIC BOGOSIAN: the rock audience provides the likeliest constituency for a New York comedian whose target is junk culture. ICA Theatre, Nash (01-830 3647). Tues.

MIKE MOWER: About to represent the BBC in Zurich, Mower's 11-piece modern jazz ensemble features his own well-crafted compositions and a bunch of excellent young soloists including the alto saxophonist Martin Speake and the trumpeter Steve Sidwell. Bass Clef, 35 Coronet Street, London N1 (01-729 2476). Wed.

TALISKER: the Celtic-jazz group led by drummer Ken Hyder now boasts the violin of David Cross, a member of King Crimson in the days of *Starless and Bible Black*. Seven Dials Jazz Club, 46 Earlham Street, London WC2 (01-892 2443).

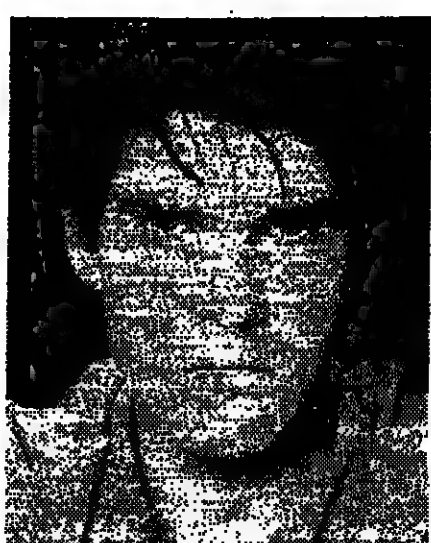
For ticket availability performances and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Dance: John Percival; Concerts: Max Harrison; Opera: Hilary Finch; Rock & Jazz: Richard Williams

THE WEEK AHEAD



CONCERTS

PROMS FIRST: Vladimir Ashkenazy has been conducting in Britain since the mid 1970s but never at the Proms. This omission will be rectified on Thursday when he takes the baton for the Brahms Tragic Overture, Prokofiev Symphony No 5 and Beethoven's third Piano Concerto. Royal Albert Hall (01-589 8212).



ROCK

COMMOTION: Lloyd Cole, young Glaswegian singer and songwriter, is one of the most thoughtful rock stars of the mid-1980s. He appears with the Commotions tonight at the Southampton Gaumont (0703 722645); tomorrow Hammersmith Odeon (01-748 4081); Monday Hammersmith Palais (01-748 2812).



BOOKS

MOONLIGHTER: David Niven, who for so long symbolized the English gentleman in Hollywood, is the subject of Sheridan Morley's biography, *The Other Side of the Moon* (Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £10.95). The book offers new material and insights into a life that had many shadows beneath the light-hearted facade.



FILMS

METROLAND: Isabelle Adjani owes her part in *Subway* (15) to a blue pullover - she met her young director, Luc Besson, while making a pop video of that title. She stars in a tale of love, crime and rock music set in the Paris Métro. From Thursday at the Lumière (01-837 0691) and other cinemas.



OPERA

FRENCH DRESSING: John Wells is taking a second translation from the French north of the Border. After Feydeau at the Edinburgh Festival comes Offenbach for Scottish Opera, *La Vie Parisienne*, suitably anglicized by Mr Wells, opens on Wednesday at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 331 1234).



FESTIVALS

CENTURY MAKER: D. H. Lawrence, who was born 100 years ago, is celebrated in his home town of Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, with a three week festival of literary events, drama and dance, including a contribution from his latest biographer, Anthony Burgess. From Sept 7. Information: 0773 768222.

THE TIMES CHOICE

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

THE ALCHEMIST: Griff Rhys Jones directs Ben Jonson's classic comedy, with a cast including Ronald Fraser, Sylvester, Toouzel, Stephen Moore, John Sessions, Daniel Peacock, James Faulkner, Gavin Richards, Terence Longdon, Perry Benson.

Lyric, Hammersmith (01-741 2311). Previews Thurs, Fri, Sept 7. Opens Sept 9. Until Oct 28.

GIG: Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe have provided some new songs for the stage adaptation of their film musical based on the story by Colette. Amanda Waring in the title role, with Beryl Reid, Stan Phillips, Jean-Pierre Aumont, Geoffrey Burdette, directed by John Dexter.

Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue (01-437 3686/434 1550). Previews today, then Mon-Sat until Sept 18. Opens Sept 17.

OPENINGS

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND/THE CRITIC: Double bill of Tom Stoppard, directed by the author, and Sheridan, directed by Sheila Hancock, sharing the theme of theatrical criticism and lampooning its practitioners. Company includes Ian McKellen, Eleanor Bron, Edward Petherbridge, Roy Kinnear, Greg Hicks, Julie Legrand, Hugh Lloyd, Olivier (01-928 2252). Previews Fri, Sept 7, 9-11. Opens Sept 12.

TRIBUTE TO SIR MICHAEL REDGRAVE: Rachel Kempson (above), Corin and Vanessa Redgrave, Natasha Richardson, are joined by dozens of others, including Dames Peggy Ashcroft and Wendy Hiller, Sir John Gielgud, Michael Aird, Constance Cummings, Oleg Popov, Ian McKellen, Frances de la Tour, Julie Walters, Maria Weller, Wayne Sleep and Jonathan Pryce, in a tribute to the late actor. Old Vic (01-928 7618). Sun only, at 4.45pm.

AUNT DAN AND LEMON: Wallace Shawn's play has Linda Hunt and Kathryn Pogson in the title roles as two women whose bizarre relationship is the focus of the play, here receiving its world premiere. Royal Court (01-730 1745). Today, matinee and evening. Opens Mon.

NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF YOUTH THEATRES: Thirteen regional youth theatres gathered in London for the first time for this annual festival, from Sun to Sept 8. Shaw Theatre, Jeannette Cochrane Theatre, The Place, Information: 01-837 0118.

NOW YOU'RE TALKIN': Belfast's

Charabanc Theatre company in a play by Marie Jones and the company. Five women from Belfast on an encounter weekend. Directed by Pam Brighton. Drill Hall Arts Centre, 18 Charles Street, London WC1 (01-637 8270). Opens Tues. Until Sept 28.

SPLIT SECOND: British premiere of a US play, by Dennis McIntyre, in which a policeman subjected to racial abuse by a handcuffed suspect gives in to the temptation to retaliate physically. Hammersmith (01-741 2311). Previews today and Mon. Opens Tues. Until Oct 5.

STRINDBERG PREMIERES: New translations, by Elvira Martinus, of three plays by August Strindberg: *My Father's House*, *First Warning* and *Parish*, presented as a triple bill. Gate Theatre Club, Prince Albert pub, Pembroke Road, London W11 (01-225 0706). Opens Mon. Until Sept 28.

SELECTED
THE DESERT AIR: Nicholas Wright's pungent comedy about wartime intelligence work is excellently directed by Adrian Noble and has outstanding performances from Geoffrey Hutchings and Nicholas Woodson, ably abetted by Peter Eyre and Cecilia Pauli. The Pit (01-628 8795/838 8891).

GUY'S AND DOLLS: Lulu is absolutely right for the role of Miss Adelaide in the National Theatre's exuberant revival, with strong support from Norman Rossington, Clarke Peters, Betsy Brantley, Prince of Wales (01-830 8881).

RING ROUND THE MOON: Slick revival of Anouilh in the open air at the Royal Albert, with the same cast, and Helen Lindsay as a grotesque social climber. Also with Michael Denison and Sarah Finch. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, London NW1 (01-486 2431).

THE SEAGULL: Vanessa Redgrave and Natasha Richardson join forces in a much improved transfer. Also with Jonathan Pryce as Trigorin in place of John Hurt. Queens (01-734 1186).

SWEET BIRD OF YOUTH: Brilliant revival of Tennessee Williams' dreamlike account of blighted dreams and frustrated ambition, starring Lauren Bacall and Michael Beck as the unloved couple, and James Grouce as the vengeful Boss Finley. Superb production by Harold Pinter. Haymarket (01-930 9832).

OUT OF TOWN

GLASGOW: Heartbreak House: Designed and Philip Wynn. The Shaw production opens the 1985/86 season. With Rupert Everett, Jane Birkin, Citizens (041 429 0022). Until Sept 28.

GUILDFOUR: Well Begins at 40: Dinsdale Landon and Liza Goddard in a new comedy by Earl Barrett. Arnie Sultan and Ray Cooney. Yvonne Arnaud (0483 60191). Opens Tues. Until Sept 28.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE: The Gambling Man: Adaptation, by Ken Hill, of the Catherine Cookson novel, presented by her "local" Tynesaver Theatre Company. Playhouse (0632 323421). Opens Thurs. Until Oct 5.

NORWICH: Seagulls Over Sorrento: First stop on a 16-town tour for Hugh Hastings's serio-

comic play about a group of navy volunteers on a secret mission on a remote Scottish island. Melvyn Hayes, Jess Conrad, Jack Douglas, Kenneth Gilbert. Theatre Royal (0603 28205/6/7). Opens Mon. Until Sept 7.

WORTHING: South Sea Bubble: Noel Coward's light comedy, written as a "vehicle" for Vivien Leigh, now with Barbara Murray, Glyn Houston, Pauline Jameson, Cornaught (0603 35333). Opens Wed. Until Sept 21.

GALLERIES

OPENINGS

WORKS ON PAPER: Etchings and lithographs from 1897-1982 by Henry Moore (above) - the grand master of British sculpture. Also, paintings by Ivon Hitchens in luscious colours. Waddington Galleries, Cork Street, London W1 (01-437 8611). From Wed.

WHO'S AFRAID OF THE RED, YELLOW AND BLUE: Barnett Newman's painting provides the title of this exhibition of abstract art chosen by Waldemar Januszczak (art critic of *The Guardian*). Includes paintings by Alan Green and Gerhard Merz and sculpture by Anish Kapoor and Zdzislaw Bednarek. Also a selection of Frank Auerbach's paintings from the 1960s. Arncliffe, Narrow Quay, Bristol (0272 299191). From today.

MICHAEL SIMPSON: Recent paintings in a show supported by Time Out magazine. Serpentine Gallery, Kensington Gardens, London W2 (01-723 9072). From today.

PAULA REGO: New paintings by the young and highly regarded artist. Edward Toteah, 13 Old Burlington Street, London W1 (01-734 0343). From Wed.

SELECTED

SIR HUGH CASSON: Collection of 50 watercolours, mostly of landscapes and buildings in Sussex. Arun Arts Centre, Arundel, Sussex (0903 882177).

ARTIST POTTERS NOW: Work by contemporary British studio potters. Sotheby's, 34 New Bond Street, London W1 (01-493 8080).

EDWARD BURRA: Great retrospective including examples of his more sombre, disturbing paintings. Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2033).

series of eight concerts with six world premieres and six British premieres, including works by Harrison Birtwistle, James Dillon, York Holter, and Robert Saxton. Concerts preceded by talks by the composers. Oct-June. Individual bookings from Tues. Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). credit cards 01-928 8800.

BOOKINGS

MUSIC AT OXFORD: Colin Walsh plays the organ in a programme of Bach, Brahms, Franck and Widor at summer festival's closing concert in the Sheldonian Theatre tonight. Music at Oxford. See Summer Hall, Oxford (0865 864056).

PATRICK HERON: More than 50 paintings spanning the career of leading British artist, plus scarves designed by the artist. Also painting in Newlyn, 1880-1930: Realist painting in Newlyn, Cornwall, during the late Victorian and Edwardian periods, prior to ascendancy of St Ives as the county's "culture capital". Both and tomorrow. The Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 4141).

THREE ASIAN ARTISTS: Asian artists from the Midlands exhibit fabric paintings, prints and drawings, and collages concerned with urban decay and graffiti. Close tomorrow. Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, London W8 (01-638 4536).

BRUNEL'S KINGDOM: Exhibition of Brunel photographs reflecting culture of Victorian age through such topics as the building of the railways and the Clifton Suspension Bridge. Researched by Rob Powell for Watershed, Bristol. Closes today. Plymouth Arts Centre, 36 Looe Street, Plymouth (0752 650060).

DALL: Sale exhibition of lithographs and etchings. Finishes today. Portman Hotel, 22 Portman Square, London W1 (01-486 5844).

For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed.
Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Galleries: Prudence Howe; Films: Geoff Brown; Photography: Michael Young; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

A COLLECTION IN THE MAKING

First chance to see the work purchased by the Crafts Council over the years.

Crafts Council Galleries, Waterloo Place, London SW1 (01-930 4811).

FILMS

OPENINGS

DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN (15): An amusing frolic with Roseanna Arquette as the bored New Jersey housewife plunged into amnesia and madcap adventures with rock star Madonna. Directed by Susan Seidelman. From Fri at Classic Haymarket (01-839 1527), Warner West End (01-439 0791), Gate Bloomsbury (01-837 1177).

CRIMES OF PASSION (15): Ken Russell's latest film - a lurid, misogynistic drama about prostitution and lust in suburban America, with Kathleen Turner, Anthony Perkins, John Laughlin. From Fri at the Odeon Haymarket (01-830 2771).

SELECTED

A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET (18): Four young friends find they share the same bloody nightmares. A compelling horror film - turbulent rather than gruesome - from Wes Craven, a cheeky director now edging closer to the commercial mainstream. With Heather Langenkamp, Ronlee Blakely, Leicester Square Theatre (01-930 5262).

HEIMAT (15): Edgar Reitz's massive, absorbing epic of daily life in a fictitious German village - 16 hours and 26 minutes full of astonishing acting, quirky detail. Camden Plaza (01-486 2443). Until Wed: shown complete over Sat and Sun.

INSIGNIFICANCE (15): Nicolas Roeg's latest film contains all the expected ideas and visual wit, though the material's stage origins restrict some of his stylistic flights. Theresa Russell, Gary Busey. Odeon Haymarket (01-830 2771).

THE PURPLE ROSE OF CAIRO (PG): Woody Allen remains behind the camera for this deft technical juggling feat with Mia Farrow. Screen on the Green (01-228 3500). Classic Royal (01-830 6815), Gate Bloomsbury (01-837 1177).

MY FIRST WIFE (15): Intensely felt story of a marital break-up from the leading Australian film-maker Paul Cox (*Man of Flowers*, *Lonely Hearts*), with John Hargreaves and Wendy Hughes. Lumiere (01-838 0891) and Chelsea Cinema (01-351 5742).

PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE SUDAN: Quite astonishing black and white photographs by David Bailey from the camps of Wad Kawi and Wad Shaif in the Sudan showing the suffering of the famine victims. City Museum and Art Gallery, Priestgate, Peterborough, (0783 310342). From today.

KOO STARK: Pictures by, not of, which lack any real theme and are no better or worse than those produced by any respectable camera club. People and places, animals, beach scenes. Hamiltons Gallery, 13 Carlos Place, London W1 (01-498 9493). From Thurs.

Unworldly man of many words



At the age of 35, A. N. Wilson has become a formidable talent in fiction. His output is impressive in volume alone: in the last eight years he has produced 11 books with his latest and eighth novel, *Gentlemen in England* (Hamish Hamilton £9.95) out this week.

He is aware that at this pace there is a danger that his creative energy might become exhausted. He says, however, that "although fiction is the most important thing for me, I tell myself that I would just stick to biography. I don't foresee a danger of not being able to write at all."

Without intending any further comparison he pointed out that "Jane Austen only wrote about six. George Eliot not many more and Tolstoy only three."

He is, as his output indicates, a man who reacts with alarm to the suggested charms of inaction. If literary prizes were presented with medals rather than money, Andrew Wilson's embazoned chest would put most modern generals to shame. "It is jolly bad luck having that reputation as nobody will ever give me another prize."

In no other way does A. N. Wilson resemble a general. He is a slight man with a vaguely academic, other-worldly mien so it came as no surprise to learn that after a brief flirtation with the Roman Catholic Church - "I was converted by reading Newman. Hugh Benson, that sort of thing" - he seriously thought of becoming a clergyman and spent a year in a seminary after leaving Oxford with "a very bad degree, a second."

He explained: "I was attracted to the priesthood because I wanted to make myself innocent and good. I wanted to be holy. I loathed clergymen but I loved giving sermons and I liked the idea of wandering around the parish knocking on all the doors and seeing people going about their private lives."

Wilson compared this interest in people to the kind of interest a fiction writer feels for his characters. Fortunately for those of us who enjoy his work lack of money made him abandon the project. He had married a don during his second year at Oxford and by this time had a family to help support. He is still interested in Church matters and recently wrote a book about his faith, *How Can I Know*, which received a mixed reception. Religion is

Prolific author
A. N. Wilson talks
to Harriet Waugh
about his life and
his latest book

Ingrained into the fabric of many of his novels.

Writing came naturally to him and a childhood of scribbling culminated in three unpublished novels while he was still an undergraduate. "One of them, although a hopeless novel, had quite a good plot and I might sometime go back to it. I knew it wasn't really publishable but thought I would one day write a proper novel. I am very concerned about such things. One of the difficult things about writing a novel is actually completing it. Going through the eighty thousand words, in a way, is the most important thing for a writer."

This feat was first combined with the necessary quality the year after he left the seminary while he was teaching at an independent school in London. This novel, *Sweets of Pinelico*, was acclaimed and drew the first of his many prizes. After a stint of teaching at Oxford and more books he had "two happy years" as literary editor of *The Spectator*. "It was a job out of the blue," he says. "It gave me the excuse to leave teaching which I knew I was bad at. I was thrilled because I thought it might provide me with a cast iron excuse not to write anything, but instead I wrote more." *The Spectator* and Andrew parted company after a spat of editorial teases on Andrew's part.

Underneath an instinctive wish to coast there most recent work most writers, unlike poets, have a very fair idea of the relative worth of their individual books. During his time on *The Spectator* Andrew wrote a life of Milton and the novel *Wise Virgin* which until now he considered his best.

Gentlemen in England, certainly his most ambitious to date, might be better. It is set in the latter part of the 19th century and concerns an upper-middle class marital misalliance and the two children born to it. Charlotte, the pretty forty-ish mother, is encased by a balding, gloomy geologist within a darkened, muffled house in London. She should have known better than

to have married Mr Nettleship because she had had an enlightened childhood under the care of her 18th century libertine father and his dubious but stimulating friend Marvo Chatterway.

Now Marvo is taking an interest in her petty 16-year-old daughter, Maudie, with whom all the characters, male and female, are in love. Her brother Lionel is causing the nationalist Mr Nettleship acute anxiety because he has found God among the nationalists of Oxford. Worse, he later becomes a follower of an Anglican monk, an uplifting public speaker called Father Cuthbert. The parents communicate anxiously through their children. Into this silently tense situation Mr Chatterway introduces, with mischievous intent, a beautiful, Bohemian young artist.

It is a densely-written novel sprinkled with real people and happenings. It conjures up a society in which people take themselves with deadly seriousness.

He explained that it is about everybody missing the point "If you see the world through your own eyes only, you get it wrong. Yet nearly everybody does. I use modern speech because I thought of the story - this sounds pretentious - before I realized it was set in that period."

"The idea of the dreadful marriage was suggested to me by a conversation I had about 17 years ago. It was about a marriage which had worked perfectly well although the couple hadn't spoken for 15 years and communicated entirely through their children."

The character of Father Cuthbert, the Anglican Benedictine, was based directly on a real 19th-century person called Joseph Lycester Lyne who was known as Father Ignatius. He had a huge cult following, went to America and collected large sums of money. He was also a Welsh nationalist.

"I altered things to suit my purpose so I changed his and his acolytes' names in the second draft. He still has devotees. In Sir Walter Scott's day" - A. N. Wilson has written a biography of him - "you could manipulate history but you can't really now."

Gentlemen in England is a big departure for A. N. Wilson and he reckons - I think mistakenly - that the public will not like it. Indefatigable as ever he is already in the middle of another novel. He says he is inclined to admire prolific writers.

ARTS DIARY

Personality split

How confusing. On Thursday the first novel by G. E. Armitage, *A Season of Peace*, is published by Secker & Warburg. Its author is a sensitive young man of 28 from North Humber. On the same day, Robert Edric's first novel, *Winter Garden*, is published by Andre Deutsch, revealing its author to be a wickedly callous writer of black comedy, also 28 and living in "West Yorkshire". I can reveal that they are the two sides of one chap, real name Gary Edric Armitage. Ironically, Secker and Deutsch each saw and rejected the novel that the other is publishing. To confuse matters further, Armitage has just had his next two novels accepted by the same publishers under his two names.

Emotional tie

Nigel Douglas Leigh-Pemberton has an emotional attachment to *The Merry Widow*, that bouncy old party who celebrates her 80th anniversary this year. The brother of the Governor of the Bank of England, he is better known as Nigel Douglas, the Old Etonian Guards officer who deserted his military career to become a singer. After studying vocal technique in Vienna - where the Lehars operetta had its debut in 1905 - he was asked to sing the leading tenor part of Danilo at the glittery Volksoper in 1964; he's still the only Englishman to have been accorded such an honour. Two decades later, he is directing a new translation (by himself) at Sadler's Wells from October 17. Sarah Brightman, Mrs Andrew Lloyd-Webber, will be making her operatic debut as the soubrette Valencienne.

Red blooded

Peter Brightman and Victoria Charlton, a husband-and-wife impresario team known as The Entertainment Corporation who specialize in high-profile acts from the USSR, have just pulled off the latest in a series of coups. Over the last 18 months, they have presented the Moscow Classical Ballet company, the Georgian Dance Company and the Moscow State Circus. Now they have signed up the Bolshoi for its first visit to Britain since 1974 and will bring the 150-strong corps de ballet to England and Scotland next spring.

As Eddie Shah announces the staff of his forthcoming newspaper, stories arrive by every post of what an ally fellow he is, or was. Did you know that he started off in the theatre as an assistant stage manager? That he worked for Granada as floor manager on *Coronation Street*? That he was production manager of the 1960s TV classic *Cathy Come Home*? Creativity still runs in his blood. Last week, the Beaverbrook of Bury was spotted transcribing a poem on his VDU.

Classic cunning

The instant classic has arrived. Bettina Rota, the antiquarian bookseller, are bringing out a series of special limited editions - handsomely printed, bound and signed by the author - of selected novels on and even before their first publication, on



Rarities: Fowles and Murdoch

the expectation that they will become even more valuable than the trade First Editions. It is the cunning idea of Tom Maschler of Cape, who is retained as an adviser to Rota. The books chosen for this elevated treatment are *A Maggot* by John Fowles, *Family and Friends* by Anita Brookner, *The Good Terrorist* by Doris Lessing and *The Good Apprentice* by Iris Murdoch. Suspicious types may notice that the first three are published by Cape, and the fourth by Chatto, which merged with Cape two years ago. "Pure coincidence," says Maschler.

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The Nissan UK formula clocks up another £50m

The latest accounts for Nissan UK, sole importer of vehicles made by Nissan Motor in Japan, add another brilliant chapter to a remarkable success story. They show that for the year ended July 31, 1984, the company made an operating profit of £38,419,000, compared with £38,855,000 in the previous year, a profit before taxation of £49,713,000 (£26,005,000).

Jordan survey of The Top 2,000 privately-owned companies in Britain does not include Nissan UK; were it to do so, in the table based on latest published pretax profits, Nissan UK would come second only to the Wellcome Foundation and thus ahead of such household names as John Swire & Sons, Littlewoods, Heron International and G. & C. Clark.

In three consecutive years of often harsh, throat-cutting competition in the British car market, Nissan UK has made around £50 million pretax profit (the figure for 1981-82 was £50,502,000). Turnover in same period has risen from £317.8 million to £448.3 million.

The performance is particularly creditable, bearing in mind the restrictions on the level of Japanese car imports to 13 per cent of the British market. Within this limit Nissan has succeeded in holding the premier position it built up in the early 1970s. Nissan has a share under six per cent of the UK market, which in 1984 meant sales of 106,360 cars.

The achievements of the Worthing-based distributors, which was created by the practical visionary who is still firmly in the driving seat, 69-year-old Octav Botnar, are put in perspective by figures for rival distributors of foreign cars. Comparing the latest available as closely as one can, NUK's return on capital is a staggering 463 per cent; VAG's (Volkswagen and Audi, a part of Lönroth) is 69.6 per cent; Renault made losses. NUK's pretax profit margin is 11.1 per cent, VAG's 3.6 per cent; Renault's 1.6 per cent. Sales per employee are £1,735,850 for NUK; £598,848 for VAG; £335,935 for Renault. Profit (pretax) per employee is £168,550 for NUK; £21,453 for VAG; and minus zilch for Renault.

The number of people employed by NUK in importing and distribution is 227 compared with 889 at VAG and 855 at Renault. Average remuneration is £21,230 at NUK; £11,210 at VAG; and £9,220 at Renault.

Explanations of NUK's success in terms of fewer employees, efficiency or "running a tight ship" are much too facile. The reality is Octav Botnar's concept, new certainly when he introduced it at the beginning of the 1970's, of direct lines of communication between distributor and dealer and the personal contact this brings. Layers of talking bureaucracies are not

Botnar's style; he prefers single tier dealership.

The dealers he chose were also a different breed. They had to be hungry for success and highly motivated. If they were not, they could not be taught to sell profitably. He believes staunchly that the best business is the business run by the proprietor, the man who wants to make money for himself succeeds.

It is a formula that has worked not only by the UK but also in Switzerland, where Mr Botnar the Nissan franchise from 1978 to the end of the last year. In that time he doubled Nissan's share of the Swiss market.

In the United Kingdom the dealers, like the distributing company, have prospered: they are after all two sides of the same golden coin. NUK's 350 dealerships are making an estimated £35 million pretax profit a year, though naturally fortunes vary from company to company. That figure is actually greater than the aggregate profit for the entire Ford dealer network, selling about five times more cars than Nissan.

The United Kingdom distributorship and dealer network is the jewel in Nissan Japan's European crown. Nissan Japan is on course to produce its first cars in the United Kingdom toward the end of next year, when a new plant at Washington, Tyne and Wear, begins to assemble imported kits at the expected rate of 24,000 a year.

This is only a beginning. Nissan Japan is virtually committed to the "second phase" in which it will manufacture perhaps 120,000 cars a year, with 80 per cent local content.

The success of the second phase, let alone a third in which production would rise to over 200,000 cars, is critically dependent on the capacity and ability of the Nissan dealership network to sell the cars.

To that end Nissan UK has embarked on an ambitious dealer development programme. Already five big new dealerships and dealer projects have been announced, at a cost of £10 million.

Nissan Japan, faced with problems from competitors, notable Toyota, at home and in several of its export markets where the value of the yen is not making life easier, is naturally covetous of Nissan UK's £50 million a year profit. In principle and in time, Nissan Motor probably in cooperation with Mitsui, will take over Nissan UK - a business which is probably already worth anything between £250 million and £400 million. In the meantime, Nissan Motor, where a new top regime has been recently put in place, needs the active cooperation and applied energy of the formidable and far-sighted Octav Botnar.

S Africa's financial Catch 22

The financial package expected to be announced over the weekend by Barend du Plessis, the South African finance minister, in advance of Monday's reopening of markets, is bound to have a surrealistic quality.

The country's economy is hardly a picture of health but is by no means in desperate straits. It has plenty of gold (not just in the ground), not to mention diamonds and a relatively good trade picture. Despite some withdrawal of investment, the financial crisis is purely political.

As a result, conventional financial measures to restore confidence, by showing the government is taking the matter seriously, are just as likely to have the reverse effect, convincing outsiders that things are even worse than they thought.

This bizarre feature is particularly evident over the question of South Africa's foreign debt. Normally this would be no problem. As an affluent, gold-backed solvent country, South Africa's debt is nothing like the South American

models of large long-term government-backed loans.

The threat is simply that the multitude of foreign creditors, many looking over each other's shoulders, will find it prudent or politic not to renew conventional credit lines. Hence Dr Gerhard de Kock, the governor of the South African Reserve Bank, must have found himself engaging in political arguments rather than financial reassurances as he talked in London before moving on to Washington to meet Paul Volcker.

At the moment, US banks are by far the most twitchy, but if the fever caught on, it could spread rapidly. With an absence of projects requiring long-term finance, few banks are tied in. Because of political objections elsewhere, much finance is with British, German and Japanese banks and would normally be rolled over without question. The fear in bankers' minds will purely be of the domino effect.

The banks will naturally be watching what happens when the exchanges re-open and whether some kind of exchange control is re-introduced.

Britoil chief leaves

A surprise boardroom departure was announced yesterday at Britoil, the North Sea oil company where the Government has just sold the remainder of its shareholding. The joint managing director Mr Ian Clark leaves the company today after "recent discussions about the future direction of Britoil". Britoil would not comment further on the reasons behind the departure.

Mr Clark, aged 46, whose salary is said to be around £75,000 a year, has a service contract which runs until the end of June, 1988.

Britoil said any question of a golden handshake was a matter for Mr Clark and the company.

Mr Clark has been with the group for nine years and became joint managing director on privatization in 1982.

Yesterday's statement said that organizational changes in Britoil would be announced soon.

Record rate

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group is to lift its prime lending rate to a record 18.5 per cent from 17.75 per cent, and the National Australia Bank is to raise its benchmark lending rate for large corporate loans to 18.25 per cent from 17.75 per cent.

Channel advisers named

The Department of Transport yesterday appointed consultants to assess the viability of proposals to build a privately-financed fixed link across the Channel.

Binnie & Partners is to advise on engineering, and Freeman Fox is to assess overall cost analysis and project management of the rival schemes.

Hydrology assessment will be undertaken by Hydraulics Research and the environmental impact of the proposals will be considered by Land Use Consultants.

Co-ordination of assessment will be undertaken by Beard Dove Project Management Partnership.

J. Henry Schroder Wagg, the merchant bank, has already been appointed financial adviser on the project.

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Dollar strengthens after fall in US trade deficit

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The United States merchandise trade deficit in July was \$10.51 billion (£7.51 billion) compared with \$13.42 billion in June, the Commerce Department announced yesterday.

It also said that the US index of leading indicators rose a seasonally adjusted 0.4 per cent in July, a revised 0.4 per cent increase in June.

As a result the dollar rose strongly. It closed 2 1/2 pence up at DM 2.31 in London and pushed the pound down two-thirds of a cent to \$1.3922.

The leading indicators figures signalled a sluggish expansion ahead.

The slight improvement in the trade deficit, coming after three monthly increases, in a row, still seems unlikely to alter the Reagan Administration's forecast of a record \$150 billion trade deficit for the whole year.

The July performance came

after three successive months of increases in the deficit, and was the smallest monthly deficit since \$10.29 billion in January.

The deficit for the January-July period was \$81.23 billion compared with \$73.85 billion in the same period in 1984.

US imports totalled \$27.92 billion in July and were down 9.5 per cent from June. Exports

were \$17.41 billion, a 0.2 per cent decline from the previous month.

The deficit with Japan was \$4 billion in July compared with \$4.37 billion in June.

With the trade deficit continuing to grow, protectionist pressures in Congress are unlikely to decrease.

Many congressmen, angered by President Reagan's rejection last Wednesday of import quotas or tariffs on shoes, think that the Administration is unlikely to pursue a tough trade policy to bring the deficit down, and several are therefore predicting the passage of protectionist legislation in the months ahead.

Japanese surplus stays near record

From Hikaru Kerna, Tokyo

Japan's trade balance was in surplus by \$5.414 billion (£3.87 billion) in July, preliminary figures show. Exports were up 2.2 per cent while imports were down 9.4 per cent on a year to year basis.

July's surplus was only a fraction less than the record \$5.72 billion surplus which Japan registered in June.

The July long-term capital

account deficit increased to a record \$8.87 billion from an \$8.16 billion deficit in June, and a \$7.11 billion deficit a year earlier. The previous record deficit was \$8.36 billion in December 1984.

As a result, the basic balance of payments deficit rose to \$3.91 billion in July from a \$2.61

billion deficit in June and a \$3.81 billion deficit a year earlier.

Tokyo's consumer price index in August rose 2.7 per cent from a year ago but fell 0.9 per cent compared with July. This is the third consecutive month that the CPI on a year to year basis has been less than 3 per cent.

Share sale starts Good Relations bid talk

By William Kay City Editor

Ms Maureen Smith was yesterday ousted as a director of Good Relations, the public relations group, just 24 hours after she had sold her entire holdings of 948,328 shares in the company, worth £1.8 million and amounting to 11 per cent of the total.

Mr Paul Winner also quit the group yesterday, but the two departures are stated to be unconnected.

Ms Smith said: "It was not my intention to resign, but it was always my intention that I should do what was in the best interests of the company, and I accept that, after selling my shares, it is in the best interests of the company that I should go."

"It's too fresh in my mind for me to say how I feel, after being with the company for 18 years. I think I need a rest."

The shares were sold to Mr Christopher Moran, the City insurance broker, who promptly sold them on at a profit.

He declined to comment on whether they went to one or several buyers, but the deal has intensified speculation that Good Relations may now be vulnerable to a bid.

The company was in merger talks with Saatchi and Saatchi, the advertising group, but these are now understood to have ended.

The biggest known shareholder in GR is Mr Anthony Good, the chairman, with 1.37 million, equal to 17.4 per cent.

The resignations are the latest in a series of upheavals for the group, which was floated on the USM in 1981 and obtained a full listing in 1983.

In February six members of the City PR division resigned in protest at plans to move them into head office. The head of that division left soon after, and four months later Mr David Lewis, the director who had founded the City operation, died after a long illness.

Metal Sciences to raise £250,000 cash

By Clare Doble

Metal Sciences, which has a process for turning scrap into shot, blasting grit, needs £250,000 in cash. Two years ago it joined the Unilever Securities Market in a £1 million offer for sale, which was 108 times oversubscribed.

The chairman, Sir Monty Finnis, formerly head of British Steel, admitted at the annual meeting that the company "was temporarily short of cash".

Metal Sciences is considering a number of fund raising schemes, including a rights issue. But it is more likely to issue new shares to a single investor.

The shares rose 2p to 8p yesterday, against the offer for sale price of 11p.

Miquel persuaded to remain at Bell

By Jeremy Warner

Mr Raymond Miquel is to stay on as chairman and chief executive of Arthur Bell & Sons despite the acrimony of the takeover battle which saw control of the Scotch whisky distiller pass to Guinness a week ago.

At the outset of the contest 10 weeks, Mr Miquel, aged 53, said he would find it impossible to resign "because I have seen the way they operate in the licensed trade and don't like it".

However, Mr Miquel has been persuaded, to change his mind, at least for the time being, after meetings with Mr Ernest Saunders, Guinness's chief executive.

A spokesman for Guinness said last night that "a lot of things are agreed and happen during the heat of a takeover battle but they tend to be forgotten in the reality of business affairs".



Raymond Miquel: change of mind

Mr Saunders will not be joining the board of Bell.

He will be represented on the board by Mr Shaun Dowling, who will become joint managing director of the whisky company with Mr David Harley, one of Bell's existing directors. Mr W. Young, Guinness has also been appointed to the Bell's board.

Harland loses £35.8m

By Our City Staff

Harland and Wolff, the state-owned Belfast shipbuilders, lost £35.8 million in the last financial year - up £6 million over 1983/84 losses but down 16 per cent on the losses for 1982/83.

Mr John Parker, the chairman and chief executive, said in his annual report yesterday that a further improvement had been expected despite "this disappointing setback".

The company's cash requirements brighter days are ahead for the shipyard

fallen by 19 per cent in the past two years, a reduction in real terms of 30 per cent, he pointed out.

The loss on work carried out was £27.88 million. Provisions for manpower reduction, rationalization and future financing costs raised the overall loss to £13.81 million on turnover of just over £59 million.

The management believes brighter days are ahead for the shipyard

Consortium bids for Sompotex

By Our City Staff

Sompotex Holdings, the long-troubled confectionery and Slush Puffie soft drinks group, is being taken over by a consortium led by Mr Nigel Wray, a director of Carlton Communications and the founder of the Fleet Street Letter, a share-tipping newsletter.

Mr Wray is joining forces with Mr Clive Mattock, an accountant with the stockbroking firm of Fiske and Co. and other investors to make a cash bid of 28.25p-a-share cash, valuing the company at £791,000. They have bought a 52 per cent stake from the Somlo family, and will make an offer to all shareholders.

But as the price jumped by 24p to 1p, the Sompotex board told investors to take no action. Fiske has arranged for all additional shares to be placed with non-discretionary investment clients, so that the share quotations will be maintained. Mr Ralph Peters, the managing director, intends to retain his 173,252 shares.

Mr Peters and his son, Michael, are to stay on the board, although the chairman, Mr Alec Ramsey, will resign at the offer's closing date.

The consortium intends to expand the company's activities with additional businesses in related fields. Mr Mattock will go on the Sompotex board, but not Mr Wray.

It was stressed last night that Carlton is not involved in the deal.

IN BRIEF

£250m of new taps

The Government Broker resumed its funding programme yesterday by announcing the issue of £250 million worth of low coupon stocks, which will be sold into the market as tranches, on demand.

The taplets should be attractive to high taxpayers and comprise £100 million of Treasury 3 per cent 1989 and £150 million of Treasury 3 per cent 1990.

Some traders were surprised that the authorities chose to neglect the index-linked segment of the gilt-edged as a funding area, since this area has remained untapped since late July. Nevertheless the new funding moves attracted little attention in a torpid market.

On the day, gilts were broadly unchanged, with shorts ending down 1/8 points; longs were ahead by a similar margin.

Bae profits rise 21%

British Aerospace has reported a 21 per cent increase in pretax profits to £68.3 million from £56.3 million for the six months to June 30. Sales also increased from £1,076.1 million to £1,307.6 million. Shareholders have been rewarded with an interim dividend of 5.8p, up from 5.25p last time.

Once again it was the defence related divisions which produced the best results. Both the civil aircraft and space divisions were in the red although the company is now more optimistic about their prospects.

Temps, page 19

The Asian Development Bank plans to issue 25 billion yen of 10-year bonds in the domestic American market, the first public yen-denominated issue there.

Milbury team

Mr Hugh Carlisle, QC, and Mr Michael Lickias, of the accountancy firm, Thornton Baker, have been appointed to conduct the court-ordered inquiry into the affairs of Milbury, the building and property group whose chairman, until this week, was the financier, Mr Jim Raper.

55% for Bond

Bond Corporation Holdings says it has acquired 81.71 million shares in Castlemeine Tooheys, equal to 55.76 per cent of Castlemeine's issued capital.

Oil price rise

The Soviet Union is asking a minimum of \$26.50 a barrel for crude oil loading next month, despite setting an official price for September of \$26.25, contract customers said yesterday.

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Mr. P. C., a Managing Director, has been trading in financial futures since 24.5.85. He speculated £5,001. On 6.6.85 (thirteen days later) he realised £10,482 - that's £5,481 profit!

Case History Two

Mr. K. D., a pilot, commenced trading in currencies & financial futures on the 17.5.85. He traded £3,874 and by 11.7.85 he had realised £6,333!

Case History Three

Mr. M. S., a managing director, invested a total of £7,072 in currencies, starting on 28.5.85. By 13.8.85 he had realised £13,498!

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John F. Lockwood, Col (Retd) MBE, Chairman

*Commission, which will vary according to the trade concerned, has been deducted from the above figures. Note what has happened in the past bears no relation to what could happen in the future.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollar rose on foreign exchanges, gaining 2 1/2 pence against the mark in fairly busy trading.

The dollar was boosted during the afternoon by encouraging statistics from America. This pushed it through the recent resistance level of 2.79 against the mark, to touch a high of DM2.8135.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
New York	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
London	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Frankfurt	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Paris	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Geneva	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Basel	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Brussels	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Amsterdam	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Stockholm	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Copenhagen	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Helsinki	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Tokyo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Singapore	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Calcutta	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bombay	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Rangoon	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Colombo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Madras	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Delhi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bhopal	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Varanasi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Patna	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Gwalior	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915

Sterling index compared with 1975 was up 0.3 at 82.7 (day's range 82.4-82.8).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
New York	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
London	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Frankfurt	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Paris	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Geneva	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Basel	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Brussels	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Amsterdam	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Stockholm	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Copenhagen	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Helsinki	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Tokyo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Singapore	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Calcutta	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bombay	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Rangoon	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Colombo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Madras	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Delhi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bhopal	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Varanasi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Patna	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Gwalior	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
New York	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
London	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Frankfurt	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Paris	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Geneva	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Basel	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Brussels	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Amsterdam	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Stockholm	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Copenhagen	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Helsinki	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Tokyo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Singapore	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Calcutta	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bombay	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Rangoon	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Colombo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Madras	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Delhi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bhopal	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Varanasi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Patna	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Gwalior	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Facing a bigger shortage than on Thursday, market rates were a little firmer. The periods were mostly about 1/2 higher.

Day-to-day money held 12-11 1/2 per cent for most of the morning, firming to 12 1/2-13 per cent by mid-afternoon. The rate had edged up to 12 1/2-13 per cent but once the authorities had taken out the shortage, the situation eased sufficiently for the rate to dip to 11-10 per cent before closing about 11 per cent.

Activity in the periods seldom strayed beyond the "threes".

TREASURY BILL TENDER

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
New York	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
London	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Frankfurt	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Paris	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Geneva	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Basel	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Brussels	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Amsterdam	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Stockholm	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Copenhagen	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Helsinki	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Tokyo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Singapore	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Calcutta	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bombay	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Rangoon	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Colombo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Madras	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Delhi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bhopal	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Varanasi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Patna	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Gwalior	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915

GOLD

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
New York	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
London	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Frankfurt	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Paris	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Geneva	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Basel	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Brussels	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Amsterdam	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Stockholm	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Copenhagen	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Helsinki	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Tokyo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Singapore	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Calcutta	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bombay	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Rangoon	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Colombo	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Madras	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Delhi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bhopal	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Varanasi	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Patna	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Gwalior	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Bikaner	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Jodhpur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915
Udaipur	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915	1.9875-1.9915

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1985			1984			1983			
1985	1984	Company	Price	Chgs	Price	1984	1983	Company	Price
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138
111	27	Alka	975	0	0	138	129	Shawnee Bank	138

Edited by Lorna Bourke

FAMILY MONEY/1

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Being British is only
a matter of degree

COLLEGE COSTS/1

Studying at a British university can be costly for expatriates, as I discovered when I got engaged to Barbara. She had sensibly been born in Nottingham but had blundered at the age of six by accompanying her parents to Switzerland. She spent 13 years there before returning to England to study history at the London School of Economics.

Barbara returned on a British passport, having chosen not to become a Swiss citizen. Nevertheless, she was classified as an "overseas student" - a group treated less favourably than home students in two respects. Firstly, they are not entitled to receive even the minimum maintenance grant. Secondly, they have to pay very high annual tuition fees: £3,150 for an undergraduate arts degree and £4,150 for a science degree. A "home" student might have to pay only £500 - and then rarely.

Barbara lacked legal advice when LSE began asking for overseas student fees, having correctly ruled that a student is "overseas" unless having lived in the UK or a Common Market country for three years before starting a course. If you fail this residence test - as Barbara did since Switzerland is

UK university fee
rules are a maze
for unwary British
'overseas' students,
David Cohen says

not part of the EEC - being a British national doesn't make any difference.

There are a few exceptions to the three-year rule but none applied to her. So, throughout her three years at LSE she paid overseas fees and got no grant.

On graduating, she changed direction and was accepted on a

Letters bounced
back and forth

speech sciences course at University College, London. I wrote to UCL asking it to confirm that, since Barbara would have been living in the UK for three years by the time she started her course, she would be classed as a home student.

No such luck. The college referred us to a 1983 Government ruling that time spent in the UK did not count towards the three-year qualifying period if the stay was "wholly or

mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education". UCL assumed Barbara had only come to London to study and would have stayed in Zurich if she had not been offered a university place. On that basis, it rightly concluded her time at LSE did not improve her fee status.

However, UCL's basic assumption was wrong. Barbara had come to this country for general reasons. University study was the way she had filled her time, not her sole or even main reason for being here. All attempts to explain this fell on deaf ears. As the correspondence ping-ponged back and forth, the college insisted it would only be convinced by evidence of her intentions contemporaneous with her leaving Switzerland.

It was now apparent Barbara had made a serious mistake by going to Zurich Airport without an English lawyer. A hastily summoned press conference, a precise statement explaining her reasons for going to England, and all would have been well.

Lacking evidence of this quality, we wondered how to convince a stubborn bureaucracy, who had smugly informed us the college gave no right of appeal against his decision. We knew that, as a last resort, we could petition the High Court for a judicial review.



Students check the examination results - but expatriates face a tougher financial test

This, though, might cost more than the fees we were trying to save and would poison Barbara's future relationship with the college.

With time and our persuasive powers running out, we managed to enlist a new ally. A letter to the Department of Education produced an encouraging reply in which the department suggested UCL should reconsider its decision.

This surprisingly forthright

intervention was not achieved without a degree of gentle persuasion. To be more specific, we had threatened to take Sir Keith Joseph to court. He had just introduced an important new exemption from the three-year test, intended primarily to assist new immigrants, it applies to any student who becomes a British citizen during the three-year period before starting a course.

If Barbara had been a foreigner, then on marrying me she would have become British and thereby qualified for the new exemption. But since she had always been British, she could not become British. So being British from birth was the only reason why she was still being treated as an overseas student - even after marrying me.

This absurd anomaly seemed inconsistent with the whole rationale of the fee regulations,

namely that those with the least connection with this country should be charged more. On this basis, a challenge to the validity of the regulations seemed distinctly possible.

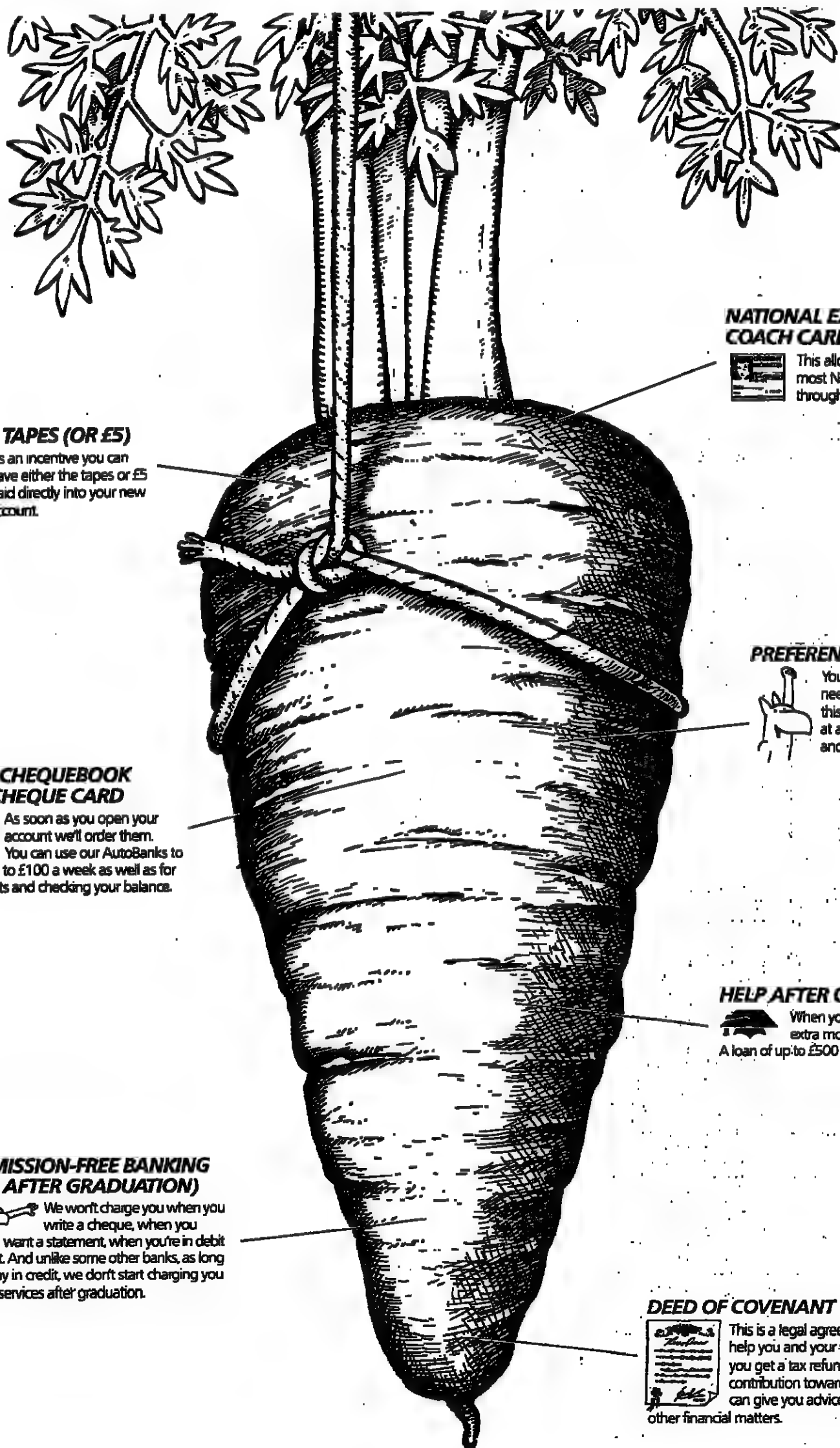
Fortunately, we got what we wanted without having to sue. The Man at the Ministry wrote a useful letter enclosing a copy of the guidance notes the department had issued to universities to help them decide on the fee status of students. In several respects these notes supported our arguments which had been rejected by the college.

At the same time as sending UCL the letter from the department and referring them to the guidance notes, we also sent them a letter from Barbara's older brother, in which he explained their family background and confirmed she had always intended to make Britain her home.

This concerted attack did the trick. At last, after more than eight months of anxiety and frustration, UCL told us it had changed its mind and would accept Barbara as a home student.

This was not quite the end of the story. Next, Barbara applied to our local authority for a grant and the payment of her home student fees. It replied it was not its policy to support a student on a second undergraduate degree.

She pointed out she had not been supported on her first degree because she had been an overseas student. She was told this was irrelevant.



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When you graduate you might need extra money before you start work. A loan of up to £500 can make things a lot easier.

DEED OF COVENANT

This is a legal agreement which will help you and your parents. It means you get a tax refund on their contribution towards your grant. We can give you advice on this and other financial matters.

New rules to beat
cowboy salesmen

Moves are afoot to protect consumers from the cowboy insurance salesmen. This week the new supervisory body, the Marketing of Investments Board Organising Committee (MIBOC), set up in expectation of the implementation of the Investor Protection Act, published proposals which mean that everyone who sells life insurance or unit trusts will have to carry a licence.

If implemented, the licensing system would do much to raise standards within the industry. At the moment, anyone can call himself a life insurance "consultant" and many salesmen are let loose on the general public with only minimal training.

In future, life insurance companies will be responsible for the activities of their salesmen and could risk losing their own licence if they fail to discipline or keep control of their activities.

The new proposals are due to come into force in early 1987. Salesmen who in the previous 18 months have been employed full time selling life insurance will be entitled to exemption from the examination. After that it will be an offence for anyone to carry on an investment business without a licence.

"Any firm employing licensed salesmen will be required to ensure that they are properly trained and supervised," said Mr Weinberg.

LB

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FAMILY MONEY/2

Now the summer is sweeter for students

COLLEGE COSTS/2

Students who have been refused supplementary benefit this summer, because they received covenanted payments from their parents instead of a student grant, have been given a valuable concession.

The Social Security minister, Anthony Newton, has ruled that the Oxford DHSS offices which (as revealed in Family Money on July 20), was refusing full benefit to students in receipt of covenanted payments, was wrong to cut benefits. Mr Newton said that the Government never intended covenanted holders to be penalized, and if that was the way the regulations worked, they would be changed.

Colin Byrne, of the National Union of Students said: "We delighted that the minister has over-ruled the DHSS decision. It was a petty-minded decision anyway, but even after the minister had made his statement, the Oxford office this week was still refusing some students benefit."

The Oxford office was cutting some students' entitlement to supplementary benefit during the long summer vacation to a few pence a week, because, it maintained, covenanted payments were treated as being paid throughout the year - not just during term time.

This heavily penalized students who received maintenance payments from their parents under a deed of



covenant even though they may actually receive less than a student on a full grant. Students on grants usually qualify for full supplementary benefit during the summer vacation if they were unable to find work.

"It was an absurd situation that students in one part of the country were being treated differently from those in another part, and it was only commonsense to regularize the situation", said the Consumers

Association. "We welcome the fact that the minister has moved quickly to sort this out".

The minister has informed DHSS offices that they must treat covenanted holders for supplementary benefit purposes in the same way as students on a grant, "on an extra-statutory basis" until the rules can be changed.

The NUS says that students who have been refused benefit or had it reduced because they

receive covenanted payments from their parents should be entitled to claim back benefit.

The Consumers Association, which produces a deed of covenant kit, says that it had, in any case, changed the wording of the deed in its kit to make it plain that covenanted payments covered term time only.

This would not, however, necessarily have solved the problem without the minister's intervention. One line of argu-

ment used by the Oxford DHSS and others was that even if the wording of the deed stipulated payments during term time only, the tax rebate that came in a lump sum had to be treated as being paid throughout the year. Benefit was reduced accordingly.

But social security payments are not the only problems to emerge with deeds of covenant. "We are finding that large numbers of our clients' children are having to wait months or even years for their tax rebate", commented an accountant who does not want to be identified for fear of incurring the displeasure of the Inland Revenue.

Parents who maintain a student son or daughter under a deed of covenant get tax relief (at the basic rate only) on money paid over in this way. Provided the student child is a non-taxpayer, he or she is able to reclaim the tax deducted at source by the parent (to take account of the parent's tax relief).

This means that every £100 covenanted by the parent costs only £70, but is worth £100 in the hands of the student - provided he or she can get the tax rebate.

The NUS estimates that only one student in three qualifies for a full grant - the others have to rely on parents to contribute to their maintenance.

Not all parents who have to make a contribution to a student offspring's maintenance

are aware of the benefits of covenanted. But all the high street banks now include a covenant form as part of their student package.

Of the freebies on offer from the banks, the package from the Midland looks about the best value for money. It is offering new student account holders a £5 bonus to start the account (or cassette tapes). But more important, there is a free coach card which entitles the holder to discounts of up to 30 per cent on most National Express fares. Midland also offers a Eurocheque card for £2 a year instead of the usual £3.50.

Perhaps the cleverest scheme is the Co-op Bank's package. This is available to all new account holders between the ages of 16 and 22 - not just students. They are offered the choice between a £10 voucher to spend in any Co-op store, an £8 bonus credit to their account - or a £10 donation to Bob Geldof's Band Aid Trust.

All the banks offer students free banking - usually if the account is kept in credit, but in some cases so long as the overdraft does not exceed a pre-agreed limit. Students should be aware that the banks impose rates of interest of anything up to 25 per cent or more on unauthorized overdrafts.

Students who can make do without borrowing will be better off with a building society account as their grant cheque will then earn interest.

Lorna Bourke

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The complete A-Z on tax

The latest edition of the *Allied Dunbar 1985-86 Tax Guide* is going on sale in bookshops, and those who deal with their own tax affairs will find that the cover price of £11.95 is money well spent.

No other tax book compares with the *Allied Dunbar* manual, which covers everything from income tax to capital transfer tax and capital gains tax, in the clearest and simplest terms. The book has been published for 13 years now.

Well-written, to begin with, the author's long experience in this field and constant updating of the text means that explanations of what are often tricky pieces of tax law are honed to perfection.

The aim of the book is to help the man-in-the-street deal with his own tax affairs without the expense of an accountant, and the first chapter, appropriately, is devoted to tax-saving hints which this year are set to be sold from Monday.

extended to cover end-of-tax-year planning.

Also new this year are restyled chapters on calculating your income tax bill, and two new chapters on life assurance and pensions. There is also a glossary of tax terms and phrases to help interpret communications from the Inland Revenue.

The guide has been updated to cover all the latest changes and developments incorporated by the 1985 Finance Act, and has the latest tax tables and worked examples showing how to calculate your tax liability in different situations.

One section that will prove a godsend to those struggling with capital gains tax computations is the section on indexation which shows worked examples of how the new rules apply.

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Your investment monies will be placed in Scottish Equitable's new Managed Unit Linked Life Fund invested in the same investment managers responsible for the Society's existing pension fund which has been the top performer out of 61 funds over the 2 year period to 1st May - an average gross annual growth rate of 45.3%. You can cash in all or part of your investment at any time. You can also draw a tax-free income of 5% p.a. of your investment for up to 20 years.

This offer with the substantial bonus is available for only a limited period. Post the coupon today with your cheque (min. investment £1,000) made payable to Scottish Equitable, to WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD, MURRAY HOUSE, 3 VANDON STREET, WESTMINSTER, SW1H 0AN. (Tel No. 01-222 1655)

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FAMILY MONEY/4

Marina stake offered with tax relief

Tax relief on an investment in a marina on the Solent at Portsmouth is likely to appeal to sailing types, and is the latest Business Expansion Scheme offer from the merchant banker Guinness Mahon.

Langstone Yachting aims to raise £21.26 million to construct a marina opening into Langstone Harbour, which lies between Portsmouth and Hayling Island to the west of Chichester Harbour. The marina is scheduled to be completed by April 1987 and should have a capacity of 336 berths, of which 300 will be set aside for permanent use by marina club members. The remaining 36 will be available for short-term occupation.

"The shortage of suitable berths and moorings in the Solent has been the subject of several reports by local planning authorities," says Guinness Mahon. "The marina at Langstone will enter a market where demand has outstripped supply for some years."

Minimum investment is £500 and full details are obtainable from Guinness Mahon, 32 St Mary at Hill, London EC3P 3AJ. Tel: 01-623 9533.

Labour win can boost shares

Investors alarmed at the confiscatory measure of the new Labour government, which is all going to be taxed heavily for having holiday homes abroad, for example can sleep easy on one point at least.

According to the insurance company Crown Life, it makes no difference who wins a general election so far as share prices are concerned.

The company says: "The stock market is just as likely to rise after a Labour win as a Conservative. In the two years following the six Labour election victories since the Second World War, the stock market on average rose almost 19 per cent - under the Conservatives, the figure

is 22 per cent." Of the 18 elections studied, the market rose in the year before the election on 12 occasions, and fell in only six. On average, an investor selling before an election would have lost money.

What this research does not reveal is what the market was expecting. The stock market is well known for discounting the likely outcome of a general election anything up to 12 months before it happens. And it usually overcompensates. If the market was expecting a Tory win, it would drift, but take off as soon as the expected outcome became a certainty.

In years when the market was expecting a Labour victory or the outcome was uncertain, the market would expect the worst and share prices would fall, again, taking off as soon as the worst fears were confirmed - or otherwise, because of the element of overcompensating. The six years when share prices fell before an election were probably those when the market was expecting a Labour win.

Airlink vital

Our recent article pointing out the importance of a 24-hour emergency telephone service and air ambulance on package holiday insurance, produced an instant response from the Automobile Association. It points out that many other insurers actually use its air ambulance service, which is available to motorists who insure with the AA's 5-Star Travel Insurance.

"We operate two air ambulances - a Learjet and a Cessna Conquest - both of which are used (through charter) for ambulance work by Transcare International, Europ Assistance and many tour operators and insurance companies," says the AA.

The importance of a 24-hour emergency telephone service and air ambulance is that in a real disaster, you want someone to be able, either to authorize the inevitable large hospital bills, or to get the patient home for treatment straight away. In 1984, 79 people were flown home by the AA.

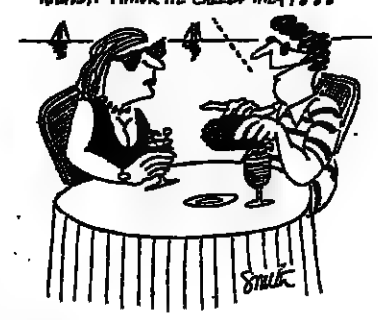
'Artistic' confusion

No wonder people are confused about money matters - an announcement from the insurer, Imperial

Life is a classic example of gobbledegook.

In a four-page announcement of a new mortgage scheme, it is not until you reach the end of page four that you have the slightest idea of how the scheme works. The previous three pages are full of wonderfully vague pronouncements like, "We regard this as very much a state-of-the-art product" and, "portability is central to the programme's design". The scheme is an insurance-linked home loan.

I HET HIS LITTLE MAN IN THE STREET TOMY AND MADE AN ASS OUT OF HIM - I THOUGHT HUNDREDS OF THESE LITTLE LITTLE UNITS - THINGS I THINK HE CALLED THEM...



Imperial goes on to say: "Half the mortgages taken out continue to be of the traditional repayment type which is only economic if the borrower is going to remain in the same house forever," a statement which is, at best, highly questionable.

Needless to say the Imperial Life scheme is linked to an insurance policy.

What is true is that virtually nobody needs an insurance-linked home loan of any sort now that tax relief on life premiums is a thing of the past. Worse, the Imperial announcement quotes the performance of the investment funds to which the mortgage is linked - but it quotes the performance over the past six months. Apart from the fact that short-term performance is often misleading, a home loan linked to a life policy is a long term commitment, and to

quote six months' performance is totally irrelevant to someone thinking of making a 25-year investment.

Charity aid

It is not often that you can make a profitable investment whilst benefiting some charity at no cost to yourself. This is what Charitable Insurance Services offers, by paying half the commission earned on the sale of an insurance product to the charity of your choice.

"We have in the past week sent cheques totalling £4,300 to more than 60 charities, including the Cancer Research Campaign, RNLI, British Heart Foundation and the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association."

Details from Devon House, 24/26 Station Road, Teignmouth, Devon, TQ14 8PE. Tel: 06267 6678.

Platinum in demand

Demand for small platinum investment bars is running ahead of 1984 levels, according to Platinum Bulletin. "If United States industry becomes more competitive following a fall in the value of the dollar, this would be constructive scenario for platinum," commented Alan Austin, manager of Johnson Matthey's platinum marketing department.

"Stocks of platinum have been estimated at only six months' western world consumption." Demand for platinum was running at a level significantly above that of 1984, according to Mr Austin. "All South African platinum producers have reported increasing demand, but there has been no expansion in production capacity, neither has there been any material increase in supplies from elsewhere," he says.

Copies of Platinum Bulletin are free from Johnson Matthey plc, 100 High Street, London N14 6ET. Tel: (01) 882 5111.

Two choice areas

Europe and Hong Kong are the key areas of investment for the immediate future, according to Richards Longstaff Portfolio Management. "The price/earnings ratio of most European stock markets is relatively low, so almost all of them hold out significant prospects

of growth", says the unit trust specialist's Mark Seare.

He points out that inflation is down in every country except Sweden, and economies are growing again. Furthermore, Continental stock markets are better regulated than in the past, and many countries have passed legislation aimed at encouraging the individual investor.

Mr Seare is also enthusiastic about Hong Kong. "The key factor in Hong Kong's recovery is that the colony is increasingly taking a pivotal role as the gateway to the vast market of China. Re-exports to and from China have rocketed in the past two years and show every sign of continuing to grow rapidly." He predicts that the Hong Kong market will reach its old peak of 1800 within the next 12 months.

Mortgage snag

A scheme launched by Legal & General aims to help you pay off your mortgage in 20 years. The company describes it as a "new deal". It is nothing of the sort. The Flexible Mortgage Plan is simply a mortgage scheme linked to a unit-linked life policy, designed to pay off your loan after 25 years, assuming a 7.5 per cent annual return. The 20-year pay-off only comes if your units manage a 10 per cent return over the period. And, as for any unit-linked policy, if the return falls below an average 7.5 per cent you will have to extend your mortgage beyond 25 years.

The offer is made in conjunction with the small Rowley Regis Building Society based in the Midlands. The Rowley's side of the offer is to give a 1 per cent discount either on the first year's interest rates or on the loan capital at the end of the year.

Miras for all

From April 1987 all homebuyers with a new loan will make their mortgage repayments net of basic rate tax relief. At the moment, building societies, banks and other lenders are only obliged to offer Miras (Mortgage Interest Relief at Source) terms to borrowers whose home loans fall below the £30,000 ceiling for mortgage interest relief. If your loan is bigger than this you may well have to make gross

repayments on the whole - and claim the tax relief back from the Inland Revenue.

Provisions under this year's Finance Act require all lenders to apply Miras to new loans from April 1987 - and most will implement these provisions well before then. However, existing borrowers with £30,000-plus loans do not appear to have the right to demand Miras terms.

Battle for savers

Accounts from the building societies paying ever more attractive rates of interest are sprouting like mushrooms. Of the latest crop, West Bromwich's Premium Share Plus, paying 9.75 per cent of basic rate tax for sums over £10,000, looks attractive. So does the new Capital City share account from the City of London Building Society. This is paying 9.5 per cent net of basic rate tax, and if the monthly interest is left to compound rather than taken as income, the rate tops up to 10.03 per cent. Three months' notice of withdrawal is required.

The Packham Building Society is offering 0.15 per cent on its children's Junior Savings account - but there are extras that come with the account.

Be ready for TSB

Do not forget to keep cash handy for the TSB share offer in February next year. You do not have to be a customer to apply for shares, and the application is expected to be very heavy. About 70 per cent of the shares on offer are expected to be reserved for small shareholders. This will ensure that the price rises to a premium as soon as the shares start to be traded when the institutions will move in to buy their quota.

Those who took our advice and became customers of the TSB before December 17 of last year, and remain customers up to the time of the share offer, will have priority in their applications. Customers of other companies in the TSB Group such as TSB Trustcard, TSB Trust Company or United Dominion Trust will not be eligible for the preferential share application terms. Employees will receive priority treatment. The minimum investment and whether or not the shares will be fully or partly paid has not been decided. Watch this space.

Cash call warning from BAE

Investors in British Aerospace must pay the second call for cash, due on September 10, or they could lose out in a big way.

The second call is for 175p a share, and to be certain that cheques are cleared in time for the deadline, make sure that the cheque arrives at the bank which issued the renounceable letter of acceptance by September 5 at the latest.

Cheques must be made payable to "Lloyds Bank" and crossed "BAE offer" and sent, together with the acceptance letter to the bank which issued the letter at the address specified.

The consequences of not paying the second call - or of not getting the cheque in on time will be disastrous for shareholders. Investors in British Telecom who failed to pay the second call would at least have got their 50p initial payment back (although none of the profit). But British Aerospace shareholders who fail to meet the second call will forfeit their shares.

"This would mean that there would be no future entitlement to the shares themselves, nor, therefore, to any additional benefits such as dividends. Furthermore you may receive no repayment of the first instalment."

Reminders of the date of the 175p cash call will be in the weekend press.

Classic deals on wheels

August is the month of the annual car registration letter change. Many of the 300,000 people who bought new C-registration cars in recent weeks will have wondered how to avoid the massive depreciation - as much as 25 per cent on some models - which can occur in just one year.

Some will have been tempted to buy a "classic" car in the knowledge that this is more likely to appreciate in value. But what is a classic car?

Almost any old car that is stylish, innovative, rare, fast or charming has its enthusiasts, thus earning it classic status. Like the house market, there is a premium on older, more desirable property.

But it doesn't have to be exotic or expensive to be a classic. Charm and style have given the Morris Minor its cult following, which contemporary rivals like the Ford Prefect and Standard Eight cannot match.

The most popular classics are convertible British sports cars like the MGB, any Triumph TR or the Jaguar E-type. The appeal is obvious: cars of such character, designed entirely for motoring pleasure, are not made any more. There will always be good demand for interesting machines like these, and the current annual price growth of 10-15 per cent looks likely to continue.

However, the prospect of a return comfortably outstripping inflation must be balanced against the costs of ownership. Buying a classic car as an investment needs careful

thought. The greatest pitfall is to use a classic as everyday transport. Wear and tear, corrosion and mileage accumulation will prevent you ever coming out in front financially. It is far wiser to regard your classic as a pastime, and cosset it accordingly.

Even so, investment potential must be balanced against fixed expenditure like road tax, insurance and regular maintenance.

When selecting a car, look into the cost - and availability - of spare parts, and assess your own mechanical aptitude. It would be difficult to crave a complex machine like a V12 Jaguar E-type without preparing yourself for "huge labour" and parts bills when it goes wrong.

The classic car movement is growing so quickly that many buyers try to anticipate the classics of the future. All cars depreciate from new, reach a price trough, and then the interesting ones climb in value. In theory, it is attractive to catch a car in the trough and then watch the asset grow, but this pioneering route is risky for all but the most dedicated enthusiasts. Similarly, it is tempting to buy an interesting new car - a Volkswagen Golf GTI perhaps - and store it away for 20 years, but guesswork like this is very risky.

Cars like the 10-year-old Triumph Stag sometimes appear with only a few hundred miles on the clock, but never hold their value in real terms. Fashion plays its part, and you are likely to get it wrong if you take the maverick approach. The Jaguar XJ Coupé (the attractive two-door version of the XJ6 and XJ12) and the Fiat 130 Coupé fit this category perfectly. Prices are currently low and should climb, but it could be one year or 10 before there is a return.

The best route for the beginner is to play safe with an established but reasonably priced classic. This brings us back to those favourite British sports cars of the 1960s.

They will undoubtedly continue to appreciate, but you must buy a good car in the first place.

Buy from a reputable dealer, or have a specialist inspect a privately-advertised car once you have satisfied yourself with its general condition.

Above all, avoid buying a classic solely as an investment. Enjoy it as you would any hobby, and treat the financial return as a welcome bonus.

Mark Hughes



When motoring was pleasure: The sporty Austin Healey 100 six, top, and the sleek Jaguar E-Type coupé, above

The Independent Investment Company-1985 Annual Report

Despite a difficult year for technology companies in general, Independent has again substantially outperformed the sector indices. Net Asset Value has risen by 13% compared to a fall of 22% in the electronics segment of the FT Actuaries Index and a fall of 3% in the Hambrecht and Quist Technology Index expressed in sterling.

The portfolio is concentrated at present on high quality software stocks. The main companies in which Independent is invested, continue to report very satisfactory earnings results.

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Save & Prosper is delighted to announce that they believe there will be an uprising in the City. Of profits.

(That is, for those skilled enough to make them.)

And, it's our view that you'll miss out if you wait until next year's Financial Revolution before you take part in the action.

THE BATTLE PLAN.

For a start, the City is already lining itself up for the shake up. Day by day big names are joining forces and aggressively planning how to take their fair share - or more - of the new markets.

Which means it's now that seasoned investors should take stock - and not just of the situation.

Nor is that the end of the story. The Stock Exchange isn't the only financial area to be turned on its head. Or the only one where investors can fall on their feet.

MORE UPRISINGS TO COME?

Look at the activity elsewhere. The way in which not only financial companies are buying each other

- but industrial giants are entering the bidding too.

Consider the recent successful flotations of financial companies.

And the Government's proposed abolition of SERPS which would leave an entire pensions market ready and waiting.

THE INFLUENCE OF FOREIGN POWERS.

In the US, banks are now being allowed to trade and acquire each other across State lines. So invest, as we have been doing for years, in smaller regional banks with little or no third world debt. And you're ideally placed to benefit from the aggressive takeover tactics of others.

While Japan's facing its own clamour to liberalise financial markets. Leaving selected Japanese financial stocks well placed - and helping out the British ones who have gained their first licence to trade there.

DRAWING UP THE LINES.

That's some of the current thinking behind Save & Prosper Financial Securities Fund, which invests in the financial services area worldwide - currently in the UK (56%), USA (26%), Japan (12%) and Hong Kong (5%). And with inflation and interest rates falling, we believe the scene is favourably set.

It's the type of thinking that's made the growth charts head in the right direction to date too. With £1,000 invested on 1st August 1980 being worth £2,626* today (1.8.85). We've easily outperformed both the FTA All Share Index and the FTA Financial Index.

As well as being the top performing fund over that time in the Money Management survey of the financial sector to 1st August 1985.

You should of course remember though that the price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up.

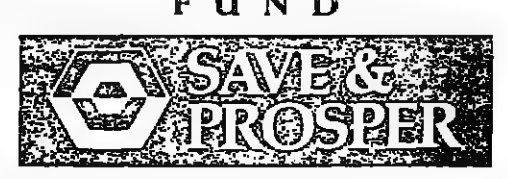
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DETAILS YOU NEED TO KNOW
OBJECTIVES: To provide a portfolio invested throughout the world in the financial services industry.
DEALING IN UNITS: Units may normally be bought or sold on any working day. Certificates will normally be forwarded within 14 days. When units are sold back to the Managers, payment is normally made within 7 days of our receiving unencashed certificates. Prices and the yield are normally quoted daily in the Financial Times. The Times and on Pressed 441244.
NET INCOME DISTRIBUTIONS: 15th January and 15th July each year. CHARGES: Initial charge: 5.25% plus a resulting adjustment not exceeding the lower of 1% or 1.25p per unit; which is included in the offer price of units. Repurchase in units available on request will be paid to subsequent professional advisers. Annual charge: 1% of the value of the Fund plus VAT. This is deducted from the Fund's assets to meet Managers' expenses including Managers' fees.
INVESTMENT POWERS: The Managers have exercised a supplemental trust deed enabling them to purchase and write traded options subject to the limitations laid down by the Department of Trade and Industry.
SAFEGUARDS: The Fund is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and is a "wider range" investment under the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Trustee: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc.
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THERE IS ONLY ONE GOLD FUND WHICH WILL NEVER BUY SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD SHARES.

In late March this year *The Daily Telegraph* predicted that Australian gold shares would return to fashion. With increasing interest in South Africa over recent weeks the Australian gold market has begun to attract worldwide investor interest. Any good news in the short term should be used as an opportunity to move away from South Africa.

THE GOLD PRICE

Five years after its fall from US\$850 gold is now off the bottom.

Gold has just broken out of its US\$310-330 trading range, well underpinned by large scale physical demand around US\$200. Waverley Asset Management Ltd believe that momentum is building prior to a major move upwards in the final quarter of 1985.

AUSTRALIA

Leading stocks have risen strongly over the past month and are now rated in line with North American producers. Second line issues have only just begun to move as investors turn their attention to the new generation of emerging products.

As international investors become increasingly nervous of their South African gold holdings, Australia attracts more and more interest. Production in the financial year to June 1985 was 50 tonnes and is forecast to rise to 80 tonnes next year and 100 tonnes by 1988.

Modern mining techniques and technology have combined to allow low cost production from ores which were previously uneconomic. Unlike South African gold mining, which is a large user of labour, Australia is highly mechanised.

Since the beginning of 1985 the AS has fallen from A\$1.40 to the British pound to A\$2.00. At present the rate is A\$1.95 and the managers believe that at present levels the currency could work in favour of the UK investor.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Managers Waverley Asset Management, a partly Australian owned, UK based investment management company. Trustee Clydesdale Bank PLC (a Member of the Midland Bank Group). Auditors Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. Prices are calculated daily and quoted in the national press. Yield The estimated current gross annual yield is 0.10%. Accumulation Units only are available and are dealt in daily. Income net of basic rate tax is automatically reinvested in the unit price annually on 31st March. Charges An initial charge of 5% (+ rounding) is included in the offer price. An annual management fee of 1% (+ VAT), based on the value of the fund, will be deducted on a monthly basis, as compared to a permitted maximum of 1.2% (+ VAT), subject to three months notice. Acknowledgements will be sent and certificates will be issued within 35 days. Repurchase Payment in respect of repurchased units will normally be made within seven days of receipt of the repurchase certificate. Intermediaries' Remuneration will be paid to qualified intermediaries at rates available on request.

THE AUSTRALASIAN GOLD FUND

Launched in March 84 The Australasian Gold Fund has attracted £8 million from both institutional and private investors. Based on Planned Savings figures for July 85, The Australasian Gold Fund is the best performing Gold Fund over one, three, six and twelve months.

It is important to remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. The offer price of units on 29th August 1985 was 22.5p.

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For those investing by 6th September we offer a 1% Unit Bonus on investment exceeding £999. The cost of this bonus will be borne by the Managers.

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All finished – then it rained

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Cowboy builders are back in the firing line. In 1984, the Office of Fair Trading received 46,000 complaints about shoddy building work, yet it is estimated that the cowboys still have 40 per cent of the home improvement market – estimated to be worth about £6 billion a year.

Mrs Sandra Kubik of Surrey will be adding to the complaints in 1985. She had a substantial extension built on to her £150,000 house by a member of the Federation of Master Builders.

There were numerous problems while the work was proceeding. These were caused not least by the fact that the builder himself rarely came to the house, and his workmen changed almost every week. It was not, however, until the builder announced that the work was "finished" that the problems started.

Rain poured through the roof and into the newly-wired and decorated bedroom. In spite of repeated requests, the builder still has not completed the job or repaired the water damage – a year after the job started.

How can you avoid the problems that beset Mrs Kubik and thousands of others? The answer is to take a few simple safeguards before the job is done and be fully aware of your legal rights if things go wrong.

Mike Jennings, of Jennings Wright Construction, a builder who is a member of the Chartered Institute of Building, commented: "Personal recommendation is the best way to choose a builder. You should beware of some of the so-called trade federations. Many of them just ask for a fee to join and there are no checks on work."



Sandra Kubik and her leaky, problem-ridden garage and bedroom extension.

criticism in choosing a builder. Mike Jennings says: "Cowboy builders often quote cut-throat prices, but will use inferior tradesmen and materials, and take short cuts. You should ask exactly what the price includes, who will be carrying out the work, and what materials will be used before making your final choice."

When you have chosen the builder, try to ensure that there is a contract in writing, particularly if you are having substantial works carried out. The contract should provide for a fixed price for the job.

If this is not possible insist that no extra works are carried out without your agreeing the cost. If the builder then proceeds without asking permission, you will not have to pay for the extra items. Time is not normally "of the essence" in a contract with a builder. If you want the work started or finished by a particular date, you should specify this in the contract.

You can sue the builder for breach of contract if he fails to comply. This applies even to

small one-off jobs where you told the builder that the work had to be done in the morning and he did not arrive until the afternoon. In these cases you are often justified in making a deduction from the bill.

If a builder offers you a contract, read it carefully, and if need be take advice before signing. When a contract is in writing its terms are much easier for you to prove in the event of a dispute. However, your request over the telephone

for a builder to repair a rotten window frame is an oral contract with the same standing in law.

The Supply of Goods and Services Act, 1982 provides important consumer protection, regardless of whether there is a written contract. Under the Act anyone who provides a service in the course of a business must do so with reasonable care and skill, in a reasonable time, and if no price has been agreed, for a reasonable charge.

Making false claim is criminal offence

If you employ a "moonlighter" who does a little occasional building work on the side, he is not working in the course of his business, and only the requirement as to "reasonable price" applies.

In addition, the Sale of Goods Act, 1979 provides that where a builder supplies any items such as radiators, windows or the like these must not be defective. If a builder makes a false claim about the service he is providing he is committing a criminal offence under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968. He cannot incorrectly describe himself as offering a "24-hour service" or as being a member of the National House Building Council.

Builders must not be negligent. If a builder drops a brick on your head or through your neighbour's greenhouse, both you and your neighbour may have a claim against him. The Office of Fair Trading publishes a free booklet, *Home Improvements*, which is available from libraries and Citizens' Advice Bureaux.

Susan Fieldman

The 'broad brush' is too wide

From Brenda Hancock, Equal Opportunities Commission, consumer affairs section

We were very interested to read your piece about Jennifer Pinder's case and PHI. If it has done nothing else, the case has thrown a spotlight on a branch of insurance which is not well known but is, as you point out, very necessary for anyone who is self-employed.

You mention the EOC's long-standing view that Section 45 of the Sex Discrimination Act should be repealed. The judge's decision, endorsing the practice of Friends' Provident in imposing a 50 per cent premium loading on women's PHI, demonstrates well what we think is wrong with this broadly drafted exclusion clause.

He took, as some of the wording in Section 45 almost invites him to do, what he called a "broad brush" approach, and accepted as reasonable a loading on a very selective group of women, largely by reference to national statistics dealing with the entire population of women.

The government actuary, in drawing up the national figures, said that for his purposes there were too few self-employed women to provide useful data – something which may not matter in the context of social security planning, but matters much more when it comes to individual PHI, which is particularly attractive to the self-employed.

The judge went even further, saying he believed Parliament would have wanted the actual amount of any sex-related loading on premiums to be ultimately a matter of "commercial judgment" – which many people might see as putting insurance very largely back where it was before the Sex Discrimination Act was ever passed. Yet "insurance" is specifically included within Section 29 of the Act.

Such a "broad brush" as this can feel more like a "blunt instrument" as a lot of the reaction has shown.

For the present, at least we can now hope that more women will satisfy themselves that the PHI terms they are being offered are competitive; and it is difficult to see why, one year from now, any woman should settle for a loading of more than 25 per cent they may by then be able to do even better.

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Contract in writing with fixed price

Organizations like the Chartered Institute of Building, the Building Employers Confederation, or the National Register of Warranted Builders, should be able to provide a list of responsible builders, some of whom guarantee their work.

You should always obtain and compare quotations from at least three builders. It is often not realized that there is a difference between a "quotation" and an "estimate".

An estimate is merely a builder's "good guess" as to what the job will cost. It is not binding, and the final bill need not come to the same amount. A "quotation" is a definite price, which if accepted will be binding on the builder. Builders often use the word interchangeably, so be careful. Price should not be the only

If you're about to invest in a pension plan make sure it's the best on the market.



Pension Plan Results Value of Fund over 5 years assuming 5 annual premiums of £500 each
*Amount invested (Allowing for tax relief at 30%) Source: Money Magazine - February 1985

"Target soars head and shoulders above all rivals in the pensions field coming, once again, top of the performance league table."
The Times - Saturday 29th January 1985.

"There is no doubt that investors who had the fore-sight or luck to put money in the Target Managed Fund deserve a large dose of self-congratulation."
Executive Pensions 1984 (Published by the Financial Times)

"One Company, Target Life, can actually boast an investment record that is so superior that it can afford to pay twice the pension of some of the others."
Target stole a march on its rivals, because the Managed Fund holds investments directly rather than putting money into other unit-linked funds within the group."
The Daily Telegraph - Saturday 17th March 1984.

"The top cash fund for retirement at age 65 comes from Target Life's Managed Fund. This is clearly no fluke result since the same fund swept the honours board in our October 1982 survey."
Money Management - June 1984.

"Indeed the best performing contract in the survey was linked to Target's Managed Fund."
The Daily Telegraph - Saturday 24th December 1983.

If you're self-employed or the director of a private company, you'll know all about the tax advantages of investing in a pension plan. Your biggest problem will be selecting the best from the rest.

Obviously, the most important factor will be the size of your pension fund when you retire.

All too often, this decision is taken as a result of comparing projected growth figures, whereas the only realistic basis for comparison is achieved growth.

The table above compares the actual results of an investment in the Target Personal Pension Plan - linked to the Target Managed Pension Fund - with three leading with profits policies and two other unit-linked plans invested in managed funds.

What it doesn't show, however, is that the Target plan has out-performed all other personal pension plans over the last five years.

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— *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS[illegible]

TENNIS: US OPEN LOSES FIVE SEEDS IN THREE DAYS

Lloyd lacks a big gun to shoot down Mayotte

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, New York

The United States championships certainly score over Wimbledon when it comes to weather. After three days of bright, muggy heat, 16 men and 16 women had already advanced to the last 32 (that is, the third round) of the singles. They did not include John Lloyd, of Britain, who was beaten 4-6, 6-1, 7-5, by Tim Mayotte, the thirteenth seed, from the United States.

As the score suggests, Lloyd played well enough to take himself a chance but not well enough to take it. In the third set Mayotte was 4-5 and 30-40 down; set point to Lloyd. But when Mayotte is serving on a court of fast to medium pace, the odds must always be in his favour. In the fourth set Lloyd was 1-4 down but recovered to lead 5-4, which left him serving for the set.

The trouble with such recoveries is that they tend to be followed by slight lapses. So it was now, at this level of competition Lloyd's problem is that he has no really big shot nothing that can be depended on for easy points. On this occasion he tried to serve better than he can, and as a consequence, served 14 double faults.

The main coming attraction in the men's singles, of course, is the expected quarter-final

clash between the past and present Wimbledon champions, John McEnroe and Boris Becker. Assuming that they can deal with the intervening opposition, these two are likely to meet on Wednesday - possibly at an hour when most of you will be sleeping.

In the second round both won easily. McEnroe against Martin Wostenholme, a Canadian who graduated from Yale last year, and Becker against the more familiar Huub van Boeckel, a large Dutchman. Becker may soon have to tackle John Nystrom, who had him in the ropes for a while in a desperately close five-set match at Wimbledon.

Becker, of course, cannot reasonably hope to be as lucky here as he was at Wimbledon, where he avoided McEnroe, Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl - but beat the players, Kevin Curren and Henri Leconte, who had obligingly knocked the top three seeds out of the running.

During the first three days here, five singles seeds were beaten - Curren, Johan Kriek, Henrik Sundstrom, Kathy Rinaldi and Gabriela Sabatini. The women's event produced a particularly interesting match between two formerly prominent but now unseeded players.

Kathy Jordan, restored to health after a variety of injuries, won 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 against Andrea Jaeger, who is making a comeback - yes a comeback - at the age of 20.

Miss Jaeger, always had trouble with her feet (something hereditary). But it was more serious ailments in the neck and shoulder that, last year, put her out of the game for eight months. By way of passing the time constructively, she studied zoology, a subject cynics might recommend for all tennis professionals. This year Miss Jaeger is playing a fast-paced, bloody-swinging game. The most striking notice seen so far appeared outside the double gates on the way to the tennis: "Don't even think of parking here". And I have re-defined an optimist as somebody who orders kippers for breakfast in New York. No, I have not tried it yet. At breakfast time, one of all that adept at ducking punches.

OLYMPIC GAMES: Juan Samanillo, the president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has rushed off a North Korean proposal that the two Koreas co-host the 1988 Olympic Games. Samanillo said it was not possible to co-host the games because the IOC had, in 1981, selected Seoul as the venue for the games. Samanillo said it was not possible to co-host the games because the IOC had, in 1981, selected Seoul as the venue for the games.

Norman capitalizes on familiar territory

By Mitchell Platt

It was quite like old times for Greg Norman at Sunningdale yesterday as he placed together an adventurous second round of 68 on the old course in move into contention for the Panasonic European Open.

Norman has been through a mediocre year for a player of his calibre. He has pocketed here and there, but he has not managed to win again on the US tour. And more importantly, another summer

ledge of Sunningdale is better than that of most competing this week. Moreover, he has enjoyed his fair share of success in this part of the country. At Wentworth, three miles along the road, he won the prestigious Sunbury World Match Play championship in 1980 and again in 1983. He will not be competing there next month because he is taking four weeks off to his wife Laura, is expending his second child.

Thus Norman is hoping to reap a rich harvest - there is a £33,330 prize this week - earlier than usual. Even so, and having gone out in 32, he made every effort to sabotage his own challenge. He took five at the tenth, where he drove into heather, and then an expensive seven at the eleventh where he was twice in the same ditch.

Norman, however, has always given good value to the spectators and he launched another stylish recovery. There was a three-iron to eight feet for an eagle three and at the fourteenth he hit a 35-foot putt for a birdie at the seventeenth. He eventually returned to the clubhouse with a halfway aggregate of 135 which is five under par.

Gordon Brand, junior, the defending champion, had a day which included three birdies and an eagle, to finish among a group of players on 136. They include Bernard Gallacher (68), Rossie Barr (69) and the Spaniards, Walsby (70), and Miguel Marín (69).

Brand, perhaps, was fired by his exclusion from the Ryder Cup. He said after his round: "I think the system where three players are picked is wrong. I finished twelfth in the list but Kim Brown and Nick Faldo, below me, were selected by Tony Jacklin. I've plodded along supporting the tour, for 18 events. Jacklin has decided to want plodders but he picked Faldo on he's not even plodding."

SCORES AT SUNNINGDALE

135 G Norman (Aus), 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 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Sunday

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Alan Whicker and cowboy (BBC1, 8.35pm). And Warren Mitchell and Dandy Nichols: *In Sickness and in Health* (BBC1, 9.30pm)

CHANNEL 4

CHANNEL 4

1.00 **Atlantean.** The links between the Celtic world and North Africa explained by Bob Quinn, a film maker who lives in the village of Carraroe, 30 miles west of Galway in Ireland

1.55 **Ella Kazan - An Outsider.** Ella Kazan, who is 72, talks about his rich and varied life as an actor, film director and writer. He describes his pioneering use of locations and method acting in *On The Waterfront*

and how he chose the lead for *East of Eden* after a motorbike ride with James Dean. "I'd rather be a third-rate writer than a first-rate director," *Kazan* says.

3.00 All Ireland Hurling Final. Galway v Offaly from Croke Park, Dublin.

5.00 World of Animation.

5.15 News Summary and weather followed by *The First Christian*. St Paul moves from Jerusalem to Caesarea, where he was imprisoned by the Romans for two years. On his way, St Paul was shipwrecked on Malta. The legend of his

death throws light on Christian attitudes to martyrdom, suffering and masochism, says writer and presenter Karen Armstrong, a former nun (7)

6.15 World Student Games from Kobe, Japan. Basketball, fencing, gymnastics, swimming, diving, water polo, tennis, volleyball, football and judo.

7.15 English Silk. Prize-winning documentary about the last major English silk block hand-printing company. David Evans & Co from Crayford, Kent. Also, a visit to Britain's only

8.15 People to People. Irreverent look at working class life from Banner Films followed by *We Owed Ran.* How people in the Thirties coped with poverty and hardship.

9.15 American Short Story. The Sky is Gray by Ernest J. Gaines. A young black boy in a small Louisiana town in the 1940s learns the meaning of pride, charity and dignity.

10.05 Virginia City. Errol Flynn stars in a large scale, rousing US Civil War action drama as a Union officer who escapes from a Confederate prison and is sent West to stop a gold shipment. Randolph Scott is the Confederate officer whom he matches wits with and Minnie Hopkins is an undercover agent masquerading as a singer. Humphrey Bogart plays a leader of a gang of Mexican bandits. Directed in 1940 by Michael Curtiz. The screenplay is based on a true story. **12.20 Close.**

at the end of the

Mair's convent, Weybridge,† 9.00 Your
 Hundred Best Times, 10.02 Sports
 Desk, 10.05 Songs from the Shows (with
 Dick Harris and Alan Wain, 10.45 Ke
 Moule at the piano, 11.00 Sports Desk
 Sounds of Jazz (stereo from midnight).
 1.00 Jean Chais presents Nightride.†
 3.00-4.00 am Brian Matthew presents
 Two's Best.†

Radio 1

News on the half hour until 11.30 am,
 1.00-2.59 pm, 3.30, 5.00, 7.30, 9.30 and
 12.30
 6.00 Mark Page, 8.00 Peter Powell,
 10.00 Steve Wright, 12.30 pop Jimmy
 Savile's "Old Record" Club (1960 and
 1975), 2.30 Adrian Jazs, 4.00 My Top
 Ten (Alison Moyet), 5.00 Top 40 17.00

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newscast. 6.30 Five British Jazzmen.
7.00 News. 7.30 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.50 From
Our Own Correspondents. 8.00 The World
News. 8.25 Reflectors. 8.45 The
Pleasure's Yours. 9.00 News. 9.05 Review of
the British Press. 9.15 Sports Review. 9.45
Keep to the Top. 10.00 Record Review. 10.25
Story. 10.40 Music. 10.55 Record Review. 10.55
Sunday Service. 11.00 News. 11.05 News
About Britain. 11.15 From Our Own
Correspondents. 11.30 News. 11.35
About Britain. 12.01 Play Of The Week. A
Christmas Carol.

by the Light of the Moon 1.00 News, 1.00 News
Twenty-Four Hours, 1.00 Empire of the Sun, 1.00
The Last Days of Pompeii, 1.00 News, 1.00 News
1.20 Johnny and Chopper, 1.00 Radio
Newsstart, 2.15 Concert Hall, 4.00 News, 4.00
Commentary, 4.15 Entertainment, 35, 5.00
News, 5.00 News, 5.00 News, 5.00 News, 5.00
Concert Hall, 5.00 News, 5.01 Short Story, 5.15
The Pleasures of Yours, 10.00 News, 10.00
Alvin's Adventures in Wonderland, 10.25
The Last Days of Pompeii, 1.00 News, 1.00
Reflections, 10.45 Sports Roundup, 11.00
News, 11.00 Commentary, 11.15 Letter From
America, 11.30 Documentary '85, 12.00 News
12.00 News, 12.00 News, 12.00 News, 12.00
Reflections, 12.30 Logistics Service, 1.00 News
1.01 Desert Island Discs, 1.45 Mary Engel's
Music, 2.00 News, 2.00 Review of the Strabell
Good News, 3.00 News About Britain, 3.21
Good News, 4.45 Personal story, 4.53
Reflections, 5.00 News, 5.00 News, 5.00
News, 5.00 Recording of the News

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Regional variations, facing page

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